

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

JUNE 1996

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Professional Veterans? You Bet!



By Commander-in-Chief
Earl L. Stock, Jr.

Whenever we in the Veterans of Foreign Wars take a stand, especially for broadening veterans' entitlements, we are accused of being professional veterans.

The people who raise the cry of "Here come the professional veterans again" actually are doing us a favor, even though their intention is to denigrate us.

Although they are using "professional" in a pejorative sense, we revel in the description because professional implies competent, able and knowledgeable.

Veteran means one who has served in the nation's armed forces, is experienced, long practiced, expert, adept.

To all of this, we in the VFW plead guilty.

Nowadays, we are hearing the expression used more frequently. This means that enemies of veterans' programs are exhausting their ammunition. They are now resorting to ad hominem arguments. Name-calling, in short.

This has not been an easy year for us.

We have strongly and vigorously advocated establishment of the VA as a separate executive department with the VA administrator a member of the President's cabinet.

We have fought for compensation and health care for veterans exposed to ionizing radiation at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, adequate funding for veterans' health care and strengthen-

ing employment and educational programs.

We have fought against and will continue to oppose attacks on veterans' entitlements.

By doing so, we are carrying out the goals established by you members speaking through your delegates to VFW National Conventions and fulfilling our mandate as expressed in our Congressional Charter.

Time and time again, when we step forward to protect this nation's veterans' hard-earned entitlements, we are denounced as professional veterans who have too much influence — too much clout.

Fact is, however, that we veterans are working only to protect what has been granted by a grateful people through their representatives in Congress.

Cost of social welfare programs has risen tremendously over the

VFW takes pride in the work it has done on behalf of the nation's veterans — whether they are eligible or not for membership. We do not shrink from doing whatever is needed in order that veterans may gain recognition for what they have done to ensure the nation's freedom.

For proof consider the proposed VA budget. Although inflation is projected to be about 4.5% in 1989, funding for discretionary items in the VA budget would rise by only 1.8% over the 1988 level. Health care funding would come up only 2% over the 1988 level. This means it will fall below current services. With a lot of fight, hard work, determination and luck, we may just manage to provide for veterans' current needs. But we won't even begin properly to address increasing future demand. Who can seriously say we have too much clout?

To maintain the influence we do

We are carrying out the goals established by you members speaking through your delegates to VFW National Conventions and fulfilling our mandate as expressed in our Congressional Charter.

past ten years, while veterans' programs have barely kept pace with inflation. We are now confronted with a VA budget that will not even provide current services.

Recognizing the harm done by soaring national deficits, we veterans in recent years have taken our share of cuts and accepted a mere current-services budget. We have contributed more than \$2 billion in savings. Other segments of the population have asked continually for more and more. As veterans, we are asking only to keep what we have earned.

Influence? Clout? Of course, the

have in Washington, VFW members must express their views directly to their Senators and Representatives.

This will convince Congress and the Administration of the rightness of our views and allow our Washington Office to be more effective by making Congress and the Administration realize that we represent the views of 2.2 million committed VFW members.

We will need the help of every man and woman in the VFW if we are to achieve an adequate VA budget in the future.

Professional veterans? You bet. ■

War Profiteering, 80s Style

I suspect that quite a few writers, producers, singers, comedians and actors who are now bringing across their version and portrayal of Vietnam once paraded the streets protesting the morality of the war.

One must truly understand the meaning of morality when you consider the capitalistic profiteering from the sacrifices of the fine young men who served in combat. One million men actually fought throughout the Vietnam War. Approximately 48,000 were killed in action; 300,000 or more were wounded. But the casualties continued after the war; more than 100,000 Vietnam veterans have committed suicide, double the men killed in combat, plus the outrageous number of 250,000 homeless Vietnam vets.

It's no secret that most of the men who served in combat live in the shadows of poverty. The children of the affluent who once protested in the streets now pick the bones of the war's dead and probe the scars of its wounded while prostituting the service of the Vietnam vet through movies, television and song. Wake up America, to "Good Morning, Vietnam." There are more on the way! It's a shame! —*Larry Stanley, P.O. Box 765, Hillsville, Virginia 24343.*

A WWII Dance Band?

I hope to organize a World War II veterans dance band to bring back the big band sound of the 1940s and composed of Army, Navy, Marines, Army Air Corps and Coast Guard veterans who played in service bands. They must be musically and physically capable of performing. Hopefully base of operations will be Las Vegas, Nev. The band will perform in Washington, D.C., at any World War II dedication ceremonies. Wives may accompany band, and all expenses will be paid. Send resume and copy of honorable discharge, both sides. —*Robert L. Tidey, 828 W. Capistrano Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43612.*

Drug Solution?

To halt the trafficking of drugs at the Mexican border, place our boot camps

along it and the Coast Guard and Navy at coastlines — all others placed between. They are being used and paid under our defense plans so why not place them along the border? Our cities are being invaded by drug barons; the country is in distress. To hell with what anybody or country thinks about such a plan. These countries are at war with us. Where is our defense? When do we fight back? —*Jim Kerrigan, 36 Lynn Court, Bogota, N.J. 07603.*

Korean Agent Orange

Did you serve in Korea during the Vietnam Era? If so, did you know Agent Orange was used along the Korean DMZ for the same purpose as it was in Vietnam? Thousands of acres were drenched with Agent Orange, Agent Blue and Agent White. Many of us Vietnam Era veterans who pulled our tour of duty in Korea didn't even know we were exposed to these cancer-causing agents. A U.S. Army report on the use of Agent Orange has been released recently and presented by Sen. Carl Levin's office to the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. Speak out, write your Senator or Representative to broaden the VA regulation on Agent Orange examinations to include all Vietnam Era veterans exposed to Agent Orange. —*Richard D. Morrow, 5974 Cypress St., Haslett, Mich. 48840.*

Liked VA Hospital

My experience has to do with the Salt Lake City, Utah, VA Hospital where I am a regular out-patient suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. I was recently diagnosed as having lung cancer and Hodgkin's lymphoma, complicated by pneumonia. The treatment I received at the Salt Lake City VA Hospital was the best in the world. Doctors and nurses were professional and compassionate and at all times aware of not just my needs but all patients' needs. My life was saved by doctors such as Cannon, Parker, Harker, Steen, Alexander — the list is endless. I, for one, am sincerely grateful for the VA hospital system and for those who dedicate their lives to ease

the pain and suffering of American veterans. —*John D. Koogle, 3665 W. Thunderbird Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84118.*

Thanks Nabisco

(This letter was sent to Melvin J. Grayson, vice president for communications, Nabisco.)

On behalf of our Post membership of more than 300 veterans, we want to thank you for cancelling the Shredded Wheat sales promotion offer of an exercise videocassette featuring Jane Fonda. We also thank you for not renewing the program and for being understanding and sympathetic with our views. —*Sal De Blasis, Commander 1977-78, Post 6699, Paramus, N.J.*

Backs Fonda Protest

I want to add my support to the courageous protest actions of the veterans in Connecticut in their attempt to stop Jane Fonda from making a movie there. As a Vietnam veteran with three years and nine months of combat service in the war zone, I strongly feel that the actions of Jane Fonda during the war were treasonous, vile and so distasteful that in my opinion, she forfeited her right to be a citizen of our great country.

My suggestion is that she make her movie in North Vietnam. After all they love her there, and I am sure would welcome her with open arms. Maybe what is stopping her is that they won't pay her in good old Yankee dollars. After all what would she do with that useless Communist money. She couldn't give it to her Communist friends. They don't want it; they want only U.S. dollars. I have started my own personal crusade, and I encourage other veterans to do the same.

Every time I hear of a movie she is in on TV or a product endorsement or a store that sells her products, I take the time to write the company or store owner a letter expressing my protest against that organization selling or promoting or showing one of

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**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Published monthly except July

VFW OBJECTIVES

To insure the national security through maximum military strength
To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans
To assist the widows and orphans and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans
To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATION

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MAIL CALL

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her movies or products. In this way, veterans will get their message across. We carry the largest economic power in the country, and when we boycott a product it is soon off the shelves. I encourage all veterans to do this and dedicate their efforts to the memory of all of our veterans who made the supreme sacrifice. — *Louis R. Stennes, First Sergeant, 5 CCGp, Robins AFB GA 31098.*

Three cheers to Waterbury, Conn., Posts 201 and 7790 for boycotting "Fitness Fonda." If my memory is correct she is married to one of the infamous "Chicago 7" defendants who helped make a mockery of our judicial system. Her inexcusable behavior seems rather odd since her famous father starred in many WWII-related films including "Mr. Roberts" and "The Battle of The Bulge." — *Jerry Hollis, 73318 C.R. 388, So. Haven, Mich. 49090.*

(The late Henry Fonda served from 1942 to 1945 in the Navy. He rose from seaman to lieutenant.)

Liked Riverine Article

It was good to see the "Mekong's River Rats" (March) article. I served with the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. We arrived at Dong Tam in December, 1966, and were assigned to guard the engineers and the dredges as they vacuumed sand from the bottom of the Mekong River to build the 9th Division a base camp.

Unfortunately, the VC had already sunk the largest dredge in the world, the New Jersey, before we arrived. We slept in the mud in our pup tents from the beginning. A month later, we finally got to sleep on some of the sand. As other units of the 9th Division arrived, we started hunting down Charley and never stopped. Later, we worked the canals in assault boats manned by the Navy.

We were frequently caught in crossfires while in the assault boats, and a few were sunk. We had the highest respect for the Navy sailors who manned the big guns during those crossfires. Our lives depended on them, as we were helpless down in

those well decks until the ramp dropped. It's high time the sailors connected with the riverine force who fought so gallantly got the praise and respect they earned. — *Wayne C. Merriman, 741 Hildean Dr., Harrodsburg, Ky. 40330.*

"The Mekong's River Rats" by M.J. Serenko (March) was a story right from the heart. I was on the USS Colleton APB-36 when it was put into commission in Philadelphia and took her to Vietnam early in 1967 at the great speed of eight to ten knots. The crew had a lot of time to get to know each other. The boat crews were some of the bravest men on earth. The crew of the Colleton, under the command of Floyd Banbury, were some of the greatest guys I've ever known. I wish them all well. — *Ed Fast, 1052 Briarwood Rd., Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521.*

I read the "Mekong's River Rats" (March) with great interest and some fear. At last writers such as M.J. (Mickey) Serenko are telling their stories, far too long after that unholy conflict we now call Vietnam. The writer's graphic comments point only to what must have been a living horror. After reading this account of a true experience, who can say we do not owe these men and women the best we have to give? They shall have the best I have to give. — *A. Bourret, Medical Center Director, 212 North Ave., Grand Junction, Colo. 81501.*

I would like to compliment the VFW Magazine on the story by Mickey Serenko, "The Mekong's River Rats" (March). I served in A Co, 3rd Bn, 60th Inf., 9th Inf. Division, in the Mekong Delta. The Tango boats were vital to our operation in the wetlands of the delta. They were just as important to us as were our helicopters. I am glad you printed this article. It brought back a lot of memories. I compliment the VFW Magazine and Mr. Serenko for a very fine article. — *Bruce Hamrick, Rte. 1, Box 165, Empire, Ala. 35063.*

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WASHINGTON WIRE

LEGISLATIVE

Recent Testimony: VFW testified before several Congressional committees on issues impacting on veterans. Here are highlights of VFW testimony at these important hearings.

VFW, before the House Ways and Means Committee Social Security Subcommittee, called for legislation to restore equity to the Social Security system. The hearing was to hear testimony on the recently released General Accounting Office (GAO) study entitled "Social Security: The Notch Issue."

The notch is highly controversial. It centers on persons born between 1917 and 1921 who are receiving less compensation than those born before 1917. Congressional action in 1972 allowed automatic cost-of-living increases in Social Security benefits to the latter group. Congress, faced with a potential bankruptcy of the Social Security system because of the 1972 action, passed in 1977 amendments designed to eliminate over-indexing and to stabilize replacement rates.

The GAO report clearly indicates that the replacement rate (the percentage of a worker's salary at retirement that is replaced by Social Security benefits) was found to be proportionally higher for those persons with the same earnings history born prior to 1917 than those persons born after 1916. Those born after 1921 receive less than those born before 1922 with the same earnings history.

Citing a GAO study, the VFW said that "no amount of technical discussion and sophisticated analysis is sufficient to convince an individual that it is equitable for him to receive a benefit that is \$100 less than his nearly identical neighbor."

The VFW maintains that Americans born during the "notch years" should be given exactly what they were promised back in 1977 — a gradual and equitable downward transition to the new lower benefit structure.

Aware of several VFW resolutions seeking legislation that would provide equity to all persons in the social security system, the House Social Security Subcommittee invited the VFW to testify. The VFW testimony noted the complexities of the issue and called for Congress "to rethink this problem and devise a new transition phase-in formula that would fairly compensate Americans caught up in the transition (notch) period."

The hearing was well attended by those older Americans affected by the "notch." The VFW testimony was well received by spectators, and an unprecedented round of applause was given for the VFW's unwavering support of legislation to restore equity to the Social Security system.

The VFW also appeared before HVAC's Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance to

express its views on a bill that would allow certain service-connected disabled veterans to receive military retirement pay in conjunction with VA compensation.

H.R. 303, introduced by Rep. Michael Bilirakis, currently has more than 200 cosponsors in the House of Representatives.

The VFW said it is an unfortunate fact that a large number of this nation's retired military veterans are being deprived of a portion of their retirement pay. This is due to the existence of a 19th-century law that still bars concurrent receipt of military retired pay based on length of service and veterans' disability compensation. Military retirees comprise the only group of retirees subject to such a forfeiture or offset of retired pay. The civil service or private sector retiree can collect the full amount of retirement annuity and disability compensation without reduction in either.

The elimination of this inequitable and insulting treatment of this nation's retired military veterans is a longstanding VFW goal. The voting delegates to the 88th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars passed Resolution 644, entitled Oppose Waiver of Military Retired Pay. This VFW resolution concludes that "veterans who receive military retirement pay be granted the full amount of disability compensation from the Veterans Administration to which they are entitled without waiving any portion of their retirement pay."

VFW contention is that disabled military retirees should not be asked to pay for their disability compensation out of their hard-earned retirement money. Disabled military retirees, through long service and great sacrifices in the defense of the nation, are entitled to both. Therefore, the VFW strongly supports enactment of H.R. 303.

SERVICE

Eligibility for VA Nursing Home Care: Admission to a VA nursing home care unit may be provided, when medically indicated, if a veteran is service connected; discharged from active military service for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; disabled by VA medical treatment or vocational rehabilitation; a former prisoner of war; exposed to a toxic substance in Vietnam, to ionizing radiation while participating in nuclear testing or while serving in the U.S. occupation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; a World War I veteran; a non-service connected veteran receiving a VA pension or unable to pay the

WASHINGTON WIRE

cost of necessary care as determined by Category A income amounts; a non-service connected veteran whose income places him in Category B; or a non-service connected veteran who exceeds the income amounts established by the "means test" but agrees to pay a medicare copayment, a Category C veteran.

Non-service connected Category A, B or C veterans may be provided nursing home care in VA facilities, if space is available. Category A veterans are seventh priority. This places them last in the VA's Priority Group I, which begins with the highest priority given to the veteran whose service connected disability requires nursing home care for any condition. Category B veterans fall into Priority Group II and Category C veterans fall into Priority Group III. Realistically, this means that admission to a VA nursing home for a non-service connected veteran is chancy.

As always, your VFW Department Service Officer is available to assist the veteran in making application for nursing home care either at a VA facility or at VA expense in the community.

VA Insurance Queries: The VA has begun toll-free telephone service for insured veterans and their beneficiaries. It is 1-800-422-8079. Before calling, be sure you have at hand as much information as possible about the policy.

VA Outpatient Dental Treatment: VA dental treatment is narrowly focused. Limitations to provision of this treatment are definite. You are considered eligible and may apply at any time for outpatient dental services if you receive service connected compensation for your dental condition or disability, but you must be receiving compensation from the VA for a condition specifically identified as dental; you do not receive compensation for your VA-rated service-connected conditions, which are the result of combat wounds, service injuries, and/or you are a former prisoner of war; your dental condition is non-service connected and you were a prisoner of war for 180 days or more; you are receiving disability compensation at the 100% rate for a service connected condition(s); your dental condition is non-service connected, and it is determined by the VA to be associated with or aggravating your service connected condition; you are a disabled veteran participating in the VA vocational rehabilitation program; or you are a Spanish-American War veteran.

Veterans currently leaving active duty and who have served at least 180 days must apply within 90 days of separation for treatment of dental conditions or disability shown to have been in existence at the time of their discharge.

Finally, there is a provision for care if your dental treatment is for a non-service connected condition and was begun while you were receiving hospital care at VA expense, and it is professionally determined to be reasonably necessary to complete the remainder of your dental care on an outpatient basis.

If you have any questions, contact your Department Service Officer.

SECURITY

Carlucci Endorses INF Treaty: Adding his support for the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, Secretary of Defense Frank C. Carlucci also cited the need for substantial improvements in conventional forces. This was well established, he told the Senators, before the Soviets returned to the INF negotiating table. NATO's current conventional defense improvements effort is aimed at correcting the alliance's most critical deficiencies. Modernizing U.S. chemical weapons is crucial to deterring conflict, in view of the "massive Soviet chemical arsenal." NATO's conventional strength "is vitally dependent" on contributing more security assistance to Greece, Turkey and Portugal, he said, adding that this is a priority needing strong Congressional support. So must measures "that will ensure a robust deterrent for NATO in the years ahead." "Even though defense is likely to be confronted with increasingly constrained budgets, I intend to ensure — and will so encourage my fellow defense ministers in NATO — that these nuclear and conventional programs are given special focus as they compete with other priorities," he continued. "In this way, we can ensure that our alliance strategy remains viable and credible." On arms control agreements as a way to remedy the current conventional imbalance in Europe, Carlucci said "NATO has called for new negotiations to deal with the threat arising from Warsaw Pact advantages in Europe. He said these would embrace the area from the Atlantic to the Urals. From NATO's perspective, a primary element of stability is to reduce or eliminate the Warsaw Pact's ability to mount a surprise attack. Current conventional imbalances indicate that proposals for major reductions in Warsaw Pact offensive capabilities are the only cuts that by themselves can improve the situation, but NATO can hardly afford cuts in its standing forces if it is to defend against a Warsaw Pact surprise attack. Thus, "we believe that any Warsaw Pact reductions should be large and highly asymmetrical." Small or less asymmetrical ones would "simply destabilize further the conventional force balance."

MAIL CALL

continued from page 8

Santo Tomas Memory

Recently I became a member-at-large of the VFW and received the March issue of the VFW Magazine. I was pleasantly surprised to read, and it was the first article I read, "Santo Tomas Testament." This story brought back many memories of Manila as I saw it shortly after it and the POWs at Santo Tomas were liberated.

I was a member of the first WAC company to come into Manila, and we were quartered at the LaSalle University buildings, such as they were, after being partly destroyed. One of the first things I was privileged to do was to visit a POW friend at Santo Tomas. We had worked for the same firm, he in Manila, and myself in Portland, Ore. Needless to say, it was a wonderful reunion. — *Nellie (Howbrook) Beal, 735 S.W. St Clair Ave., Portland, Ore. 97205.*

Leroy Was There

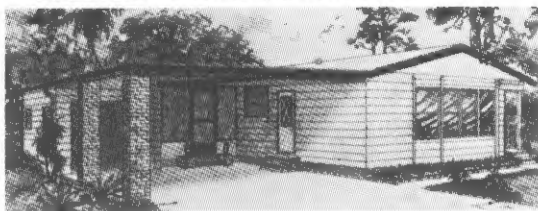
This is to thank DSO (Dedicated Service Officer) Leroy Vigil, in Albuquerque, N.M., who diligently pursued my claim for asbestosis service connection. After local denials he went to the Veterans Appeal Board. Citing the Bureau of Labor manual regarding asbestos handling, he was able to have my two-year claim approved. For this and other veteran's matters he has solved for me, I salute him. He really is a DSO. — *Fred Salek, 405 Diana Dr., Los Lunas, N.M. 87301.*

Seeks Veterans

To prepare a book about the 77th and 231st Station Hospitals that occupied the site we now use as a school, we would like to hear from persons who served in those units or were patients. — *Mrs. A. Hoare, Wymondham College, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 9S2, England.*

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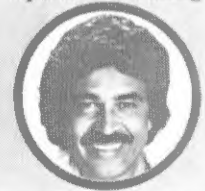
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WWII Film Available

A D-Day commemorative film has been produced by Creative Communications, a non-profit organization.

The film recaptures the 40th anniversary ceremonies on Utah and Omaha Beaches on June 6, 1984, in which President Reagan, Queen Elizabeth II, President Francois Mitterand and the heads of the other allied countries participated.

In addition, the film includes footage of campaigns through France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany. Culmination is the surrender at Reims that brought World War II to an end in Europe. A highlight also is the fighting at Bastogne, a major American victory during the Battle of the Bulge.

Further information is available from D-D Plus 40, Inc., Suite 231, 30559 Pinetree, Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124.

Employment Award Winners

Winners of VFW National Employment Awards have been announced by Commander-in-Chief Earl L. Stock.

Employer of the Year honors for companies with fewer than 250 workers went to Hernandez Electric Co., Phoenix, Ariz., first place; Industrial Electric, Inc., Lowell Ark., second place, and Aero Turbine, Inc., San Ramon, Calif., third place.

Twitchell Textiles, Dothan, Ala., won the top award for companies with more than 250 employees, while San Antonio Real Property Maintenance, San Antonio, Texas, was second, and Tyson Distribution Center, Rogers, Ark., was third.

Distinguished Service Award winners were Monongalia County Veterans Task Force, Morgantown, W.Va., first place; Charles L. Miller, Local Veterans Employment Representative, Fayetteville, N.C., second place, and Ron Boardman, Disabled Veteran Outreach specialist, Prescott, Ariz., third.

Local Office Awards went to Pottsville Employment Service, Pottsville, Pa., first place; Athens Employment

Service Office, Athens, Tenn., second place, and Mandan Employment Service Office, Mandan, N.D., third place.

The winners were selected by a panel of judges from the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

These annual awards recognize individuals and organizations for their work in promoting veterans' employment and training.

Vietnam Quarterly Begun

A full-color quarterly, Vietnam, has begun publication. It is devoted to factual, historical accounts of the fighting in Southeast Asia and commentaries by major participants. In future years, it no doubt will have done for the Vietnam War what Battles and Leaders of the Civil War did for that conflict. Under the editorial guidance of Col. Harry G. Summers, a Vietnam veteran who has emerged in recent years as one of the foremost authorities on the era, Vietnam numbers among its writers many others who earned their spurs as soldiers or reporters in Vietnam. Further information may be obtained from Vietnam, Empire Press, 105 Loudoun St., SW, Leesburg, Va. 22075.

War Brides

A retrospective of the 15,000 Australian war brides, those who married Americans during World War II and came to the U.S. more than 40 years ago, may be seen June 7 and 9 on the Discovery cable channel. Their lives in this country will be reviewed in the documentary, "For the Love of a Soldier."

Arlington's Story

Just about everything you ever wanted to know about Arlington National Cemetery is set forth in a recent book written by James Edward Peters, a longtime student of the final resting place of American heroes. Entitled "Arlington National Cemetery: Shrine to American Heroes," the 313-page paperback volume is published by Woodbine House, 10400 Connecticut

Ave., Kensington, Md. 20895. A large fold-out map accompanying the volume indicates locations of many notables' burial places. Peters also details the history of Arlington, includes biographical information on many who are buried there and regulations for burial.



This is the Prisoner of War Medal being awarded to former POWs or their families. The medal's reverse side is left and its obverse right. Ribbon's colors are a wide blue stripe in the center, flanked by red, white, blue and white stripes on either side. Information on how to obtain it was in this space last month.

VA Ups Interest

To adjust to market conditions, the Veterans Administration raised its maximum home loan interest rate from 9.5% to 10% April 3.

The last change in the VA interest rate occurred Feb. 1 when it went down from 10.5% to 9.5%.

Reflecting market conditions, the maximum guarantee in recent years has been on a general decline, from a high of 17.5% in September, 1981, to a low of 8.5% in January, 1987.

Needs Help

The Curator Branch, Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C. 20374-0571 is looking for volunteers to work with its collections of historical art, artifacts and photographs in the Washington Navy Yard. Help is needed to identify and catalog this material and prepare it for storage and display. If interested, contact Mrs. Tandra Johnson at (202) 433-3607 or Dr. Norman Cary at (202) 433-2318.

Home Graduates



1988 National Home graduates are (front to back) Mary Jane Hicks, Kerry Roy, Gina Reilly, Leroy Banks and David Waggener.

Six VFW National Home seniors, Leroy Banks, Mary Jane Hicks, Gina Reilly, Kerry Roy and David Waggener, are to be graduated from Eaton Rapids High School and the National Home this month.

Pat Rich is this year's only college graduate.

Eighteen-year-old Banks, who came from Odessa, Mo., with his mother, Iris, and two sisters, Connie and Priscilla, is sponsored by Post 5675. They arrived at the National Home over a year ago. Leroy plans to attend Lansing Community College and study mechanics and is grateful for the VFW's and Ladies Auxiliary's sponsorship.

Mary Jane Hicks, eldest of the graduates, arrived at the VFW National Home in September, 1978, and is spon-

sored by Imlay City, Mich., Post 2492. She is another who plans to continue her education at Lansing Community College.

Gina Reilly came from Orlando, Fla., in 1982 under the sponsorship of Post 5405. Accepted at Kalamazoo College, Hope College and Western Michigan University, she will attend Kalamazoo College this fall where she will study social sciences.

At 17 Kerry Roy is the youngest graduate. Kerry, sponsored by Post 802, Hammond, Ind., arrived at the National Home in 1982 with his brother and sister, both of whom have been graduated. He also plans to attend Lansing Community College, then transfer to Michigan State University to study business.

David Waggener came to the Na-

tional Home in 1980 with his two brothers, sponsored by Post 7641 of New London, Iowa. He plans to attend Lansing Community College and transfer to Eastern Michigan University. David says he is "very grateful for the opportunities that many kids don't have" and appreciates all that the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary have done for him.

Pat Rich came to the Home in 1972 and was sponsored by Post 1590, Daytona Beach, Fla. He was graduated from high school in 1979, then attended college shortly before serving in the Army. After his discharge, he attended and was graduated from Davenport College in Lansing.

Executive Director Sought

The VFW National Home, located in Eaton Rapids, Mich., is seeking a chief administrator to direct the various operations of this residential child-care agency. The 63-year-old agency, with 63 buildings on 640 acres, serves needy children and single parent families from around the country.

Candidates must have a master's degree in social work, sociology, psychology, guidance and counseling, education, business administration, criminal justice or public administration. Strongest candidates will also be a member of (or be eligible to join) the VFW or the Ladies Auxiliary and will have at least five years of administrative experience in residential child care.

An attractive benefit package and a competitive salary are offered. Application should be received by July 1, 1988. Send resumes and current salary to Search Committee, VFW National Home, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. EOE.

The current director, Dr. Ted Wilson, has taken a new position with Schools for Children in the Boston area. He has served as executive director for eight years.

POW/MIA: Seven Years of Hard Work

By Rep. Gerald Solomon

Although I take tremendous pride in serving as the senior ranking Republican on the House Veterans Affairs' Committee, as a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I have also had the unequalled privilege of participating in one of the most vital efforts undertaken by President Ronald Reagan over the last seven years — the campaign to account for our missing servicemen in Indochina and to bring back any of our veterans who may still be held in captivity there.

There should be no doubt that not one of us in Congress can take full responsibility for the progress that has been made on this issue in the last few years. President Reagan stands alone in deserving the thanks of veterans for bringing our missing men back to the forefront of our nation's attention and for making a full accounting of the fate of these vets a matter of top national priority.

As a former chairman and continuing member of the Foreign Affairs Task Force on Missing and Prisoners in Southeast Asia, however, I have seen at close hand the resolve this President's dedication to these veterans has instilled in the members of the defense and intelligence agencies who have had the responsibility of making progress on this issue through both promising times and through setbacks. And believe me, there have been setbacks. The leaders of Southeast Asian countries are naturally tough bargainers, and when you combine that with their radical Communism, a political system that has never hesitated to use hostages, living or dead, to further its cause, you realize just what a challenge you face to overcome setbacks and make that progress so vital to our missing men and to their families and friends here at home.

To his further credit, though, President Reagan has given these men and women the tools and support they need to do the job. The first

step he took was to throw out the old assumption that all our MIAs were dead and replace it with the official policy that we do not rule out the possibility of live Americans in Southeast Asia.

Creation of the POW/MIA Inter-agency Group, the next step, established an experienced and knowledgeable team to coordinate the work of the State and Defense De-

I want to thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars for all its help in working with Congress and President Reagan on this vitally important issue. For that, may God bless you all.

partments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the intelligence agencies, the National Security Council and last and most important, to provide for the participation of the non-governmental National League of POW/MIA Families. Then there were the increases in personnel, data-processing capability and resources provided to the Defense Intelligence Agency to gather and analyze information, to the Joint Casualty Resolution Center to interview Indochinese refugees and to the Central Identification Laboratory to seek the identity of remains turned in by private citizens or retrieved from the Southeast Asian governments.

As important and necessary as these concrete measures were, I strongly believe that this President's symbolic steps have had an intangible but tremendous influence in making progress on this matter. His 1982 order that the Flag of the League of POW/MIA Families be flown with our nation's Flag over the White House and Veterans Administration on National POW-MIA Recognition Day let not just these veterans' families know but let all Americans

and those in Southeast Asia know also that his commitment continues. His words have inspired us. As he has said, "It's no secret. There are those who want to promise easy solutions or even exploit this issue for selfish reasons. But we have made progress, and the truth is we will continue to make progress as long as we stick with the facts . . . keep faith with each other and demonstrate the unity of purpose so fundamental to our cause."

Progress has indeed been made since President Reagan first dispatched high-level officials of his Administration to meet with Vietnamese officials in 1981. The Vietnamese government finally has agreed to the principle that the POW/MIA issue is a humanitarian one. Its resolution should be separate from the other issues that divide our two nations. Close to 50 meetings also have been held since then with officials from the Laotian and Vietnamese governments to discuss policy, cooperation and technical and humanitarian matters, to visit, survey and excavate aircraft crash sites and to receive remains. More than 100 of them have since been identified as missing American servicemen.

Unfortunately, as I said, there



About the Author: Rep. Solomon is from New York's 24th Congressional District. He has been in the House since 1978.

have been setbacks. The most challenging one was Vietnam's recent failure to meet the 1987 deadline it had set for itself in 1985 fully and finally to resolve the POW/MIA issue. Such roadblocks have not been easy on the relatives of our missing men, but each challenge has been met with the unity of purpose the President spoke of. With the suffering of these families in mind, he once again moved to overcome this latest setback through the appointment of retired Army Gen. John Vessey as his special emissary to reinvigorate cooperation between our two countries on this issue. Since Gen. Vessey's visit to Hanoi last August, Vietnam has turned over another 20 sets of remains; Laos is moving toward the joint excavation of another crash site, and a Cambodian official has indicated that his country has several sets of remains it believes are

those of American MIAs.

While the recovery and identification of the remains of an American serviceman are important in ending family suffering over the question of his fate, we all hope that some MIAs may yet prove to be alive. I have long had a gut feeling that some Americans are indeed alive in Southeast Asia. When I led a task force delegation to Vietnam two years ago, my feeling about this was reinforced when a government official told me that, although they were unaware of any live Americans, there could be some unknown to them in areas not under their control. My position, therefore, is that we must continue our work to find out who is there, how many there are and whether they want to come home. Gen. Vessey again underlined to Vietnam President Reagan's concern over the MIA/POW "discrepancy cases" in

which the evidence is most compelling that the individual serviceman may have been alive in enemy territory. There is some indication that the Vietnamese and Laotian governments will now address the questions surrounding more than 70 of those cases. I know that all Americans share my hopes that these efforts will meet with success and return any live American who wants to rejoin his family and country.

Over the years, the task force has reviewed accusations of coverup and conspiracy, addressed confusion over the nature of available information on MIA cases and continually has worked to support the President's increases in the resources dedicated to resolving this issue. I believe it has proven itself an indispensable part of the campaign to account for our men. ■

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Department Senior Vice Commanders' & Adjutants- Quartermasters' Conference

1988-89 Plans Readied



Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Larry W. Rivers pauses to chat with Panama Canal Quartermaster Marion H. Lasater. Top, he addresses Department Senior Vice Commanders and Adjutants-Quartermasters.

Two expressions VFW members will be hearing a lot in the coming months were used frequently during the April 23-24 weekend in Kansas City at the Department Senior Vice Commanders' and Adjutants-Quartermasters' Conference.

The first, "We Remember," will be the theme of Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Larry W. Rivers' 1988-89 year after his expected election at the 89th National Convention in Chicago.

The other, the "NR Factor," emphasizes the VFW's determination to increase its recruitment of new and reinstated members in the 1988-89 year as it works for its 33rd continuous year of membership growth.

Speaking to the Senior Vice Commanders, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., said, "We must build the Commander-in-Chief's personality into every program."

"He is dedicated to the task of carrying out his responsibility and devoting every attribute of his personality to it," Vander Clute continued. "He has received many compliments on the manner in which he articulates the organization's goals and philosophy. He will carry the

message of the organization to the very top."

Vander Clute pledged the National Headquarters staff will be responsive to the needs of the Senior Vice Commanders when they are elected to their Departments' top leadership post.

Rivers told them that no one can ask more of them than that they leave their Departments at the end of their term stronger than when they took over.

"This will be the greatest experience of your life," he said. "Being a Department Commander demands your total talent and industry."

Rivers, a Vietnam War veteran, said a major concern of his year will be long-range planning to increase membership in the face of the changing demographics of the nation's veteran population, noting that of the more than 9 million living veterans of World War II, 4.5 million are eligible for VFW membership.

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Wally Hogan, a Korean War veteran amputee, said he has come to know Rivers well in the past eight months and predicted that the two of them and the Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Conference

to be elected in Chicago from the Western Conference "will make a great team."

He continued:

"Your Departments will be looking to you to produce the leadership... Larry Rivers is dedicated and strong in his beliefs. It is a high honor and privilege to serve with him."

Discussing the need for more new and reinstated members, Rivers said that although the organization can make it through another year without stressing the NR Factor, "our work is too important to put it off, and the situation is serious, so much so that we cannot afford not to begin emphasizing the need for more new and reinstated members now."

"And we are going to be successful because we have a deep and abiding belief in our organization and our nation. We don't have time for negativism or petty jealousies. We don't have time for grudges."

During the session in which VFW National programs were discussed, Membership Director W. Benny Bachand described in detail a wide range of expanded awards available to Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders for 1988-89 that include trips and monetary incentives for membership growth, with the emphasis on the NR Factor. An award will be available also to rank-and-file members.

Post Development Director Joseph D. Ross explained awards to be made for organizing new Posts and a system inaugurated at National Headquarters to pinpoint areas in each Department where new Posts may be formed.

This involves extensive use of surveys, demographic studies and cartographic information, he said.

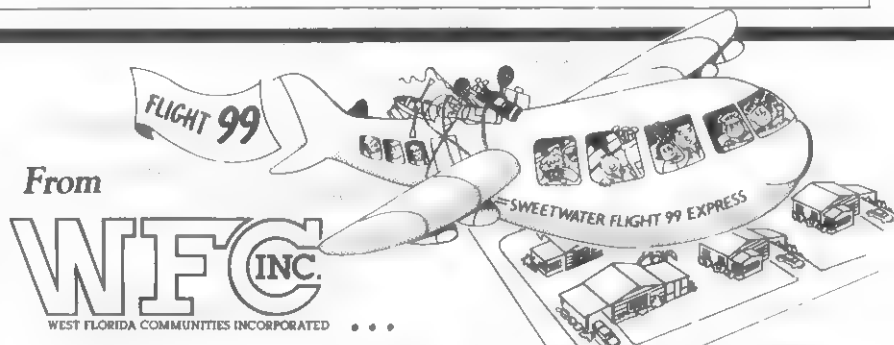
Ross also announced plans to establish among schoolchildren VFW Confidence Clubs as a means of fighting drug and alcohol abuse. Symbol of the clubs is Captain Strong, a figure somewhat like Superman. The children will receive 16-page coloring books emphasizing the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse.

Other program directors at Na-

tional Headquarters who discussed their activities were Raymond N. Price, Americanism and Community Activities; Lawrence LeFebvre, Voice of Democracy and Youth Activities; Wade W. LaDue, Public Relations and Publications, and National Convention Director Omar Kendall. From the Washington Office came Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, National

Legislative Director James Magill, National Veterans Service Director Fred-erico Juarbe and National Security Director Kenneth Steadman.

Quartermaster Gen. Herbert Irwin and his staff explained several facets of the organization's operations as they affect its internal functioning and are of special interest to the Adjutants and Quartermasters. ■



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THE MORAL FIRST CRUSADE

By Richard K. Kolb

“If the best minds in the world had set out to find the worst possible location in the world to fight this damnable war, politically and militarily, the unanimous choice would have been Korea!”

That assessment of U.S. intervention in that Northeast Asian nation was one the servicemen charged with carrying out U.S. policy no doubt agreed with.

On July 26, 1953, a flash message went out to the 26,000 Marines manning the main line of resistance (MLR) in western Korea. It directed that there be “no celebration firing related in any way to the advent of the armistice.” Each frontline company was authorized to fire one white star cluster at 2200 hours to signal the ceasefire.

According to plan, thousands of flares illuminated the sky along the 155-mile front which stretched from the Yellow Sea to the Sea of Japan. That day the Korean War ended officially in Washington after two years of negotiations. It also quickly faded from the minds of the American people.

of sustaining the first U.S. killed in action at Osan on July 5. It quickly became obvious that reinforcements were needed desperately.

[A detachment from the 507th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Bn. was the first combat unit sent. See "The First to Fight" on page 26.]

Army, Marine Corps and Navy Reservists were called to active duty to supplement regular forces. In fact, 20% of Korean Era servicemen also

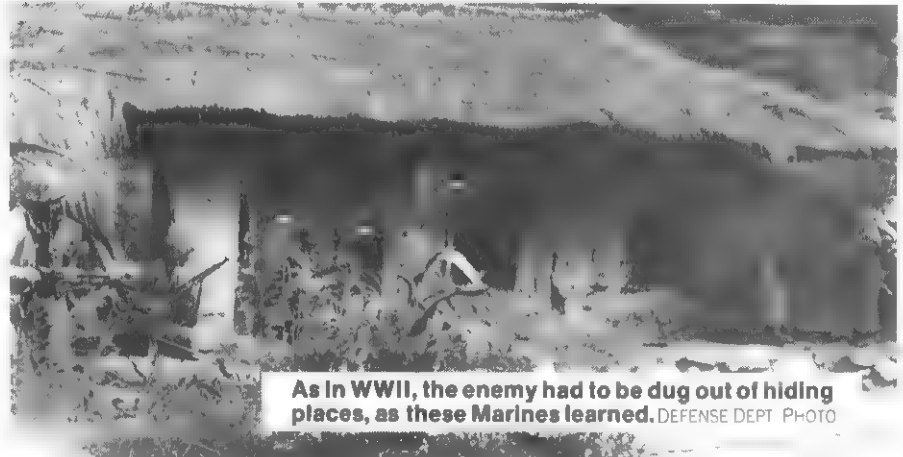
Fleet comprised a fast carrier task group, blockade and escort forces, reconnaissance and anti-submarine units, supply and repair units and military sea transport services. The 5th Air Force fielded one tactical air force, one air combat cargo command and two medium bombardment wings. Air power also was supplied by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing as well as carrier-based Navy planes. The Navy and Air Force played indispensable roles throughout the war in providing

The Korean War remains a hazy event at best. Only 40% of the public is old enough to remember it. And since Korean Era veterans make up less than a fifth of the total U.S. veteran population, they traditionally have attracted little attention. Moreover, until 1958, the war in Korea was not even officially dignified by that term. Even today, the Truman Administration's euphemisms of "conflict" and "police action" hold sway.

Intervention in the Hermit Kingdom was undertaken under the aura of an international moral crusade. Newsweek called it an act of "courageous knight-errantry." Truman confessed that "in the final analysis, I did this for the United Nations." But the average post-WWII American displayed scant enthusiasm for abstract causes — only 7% supported Truman's idealistic rationale.

While Washington's geopolitical intentions were unclear, the cause of the conflict was clear-cut. On June 25, 1950, 135,000 North Korea troops, spearheaded by 200 Russian-built tanks and planes, crashed across the 38th parallel, crushing South Korean defenses. Nearly a third of the attacking troops were veterans of the Chinese Army, hardened by years of war against Japan in Manchuria. America and its South Korean protege, on the other hand, were totally unprepared for war in East Asia.

The U.S. Army divisions then occupying Japan existed in skeleton form only and had to be fleshed out by cannibalizing other units stationed throughout the world. Nonetheless, a unit was rushed to the peninsula on July 1 as a symbolic show of support. The 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry, 24th Infantry Division, called Task Force Smith for its commander, Lt. Col. Charles B. Smith, had the distinction



As in WWII, the enemy had to be dug out of hiding places, as these Marines learned. DEFENSE DEPT. PHOTO

served in WWII. These "retreads" proved an invaluable resource among the inexperienced ranks. Indeed, only 10% of active duty Marines were WWII veterans in 1950. Changes in the composition of the U.S. Army in Korea reflected the varied sources of manpower mobilized during the course of the war. In December, 1950, over 80% of soldiers were regulars. Shortly thereafter, recalled reservists replaced many regulars on the lines. By the end of 1952, almost two-thirds of Army troops in Korea were draftees.

The Far East Command consisted of the 8th Army, 7th Fleet and 5th Air Force. Ground forces were organized into four corps, encompassing eight U.S. Army divisions, two regimental combat teams and the 1st Marine Division. Army units included the 1st Cavalry and the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th, 40th and 45th Infantry Divisions. The latter two divisions were national guard units from California and Oklahoma, respectively. The 5th Regimental Combat Team was sent from Okinawa, and the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team operated out of Japan.

Offshore in the Sea of Japan the 7th

both combat and logistical support.

For the most part, Korea was a ground-pounders' war. GIs called Korea "the land that God forgot." It was a place where the air was constantly permeated by the stench of the night soil used as fertilizer by farmers. Mountains of endless ridges and valleys dominated the peninsula. The steep hillsides were baked by the sun in the summer, and each rice paddy formed a foul-smelling oven. In the winter temperatures plummeted to 40 degrees below zero, bringing waves of bone-numbing cold.

A tour of duty in Korea depended upon proximity to the fighting. Rear-echelon forces — two-thirds of Army personnel — served 18 months. Combat troops fought for nine to 12 months. Five-day R & R (Rest and Recuperation) to Japan were instituted to alleviate combat exhaustion. In May, 1951, the "Big R" — rotation to the States — was inaugurated. Under the point system a soldier had to earn 36 points to go home. Line troops rated four points per month; those in support roles garnered two points a month.

Fighting in Korea was fierce from

KOREA

the outset. And certain units were destined to suffer disproportionately. Radio commentator Walter Winchell said, "If you have a son overseas, write to him. If you have a son in the 2nd Division, pray for him." Wrote T.R. Fehrenbach, author of "This Kind of War," "The 2nd Division, while it inflicted more casualties during the Korean War than any other, always had the misfortune of losing 50% more men than the other divisions."

Indeed, the Indianhead Division, which participated in all ten named campaigns of the war, lost 7,094 men killed and 16,575 wounded in action. That combat fatality rate accounted for over 25% of total Army battle deaths in Korea. Other outfits such as the 1st Marine, 1st Cavalry, 7th, 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions also sustained high combat casualties.

While the Army accounted for over 80% of total U.S. battlefield deaths, the Air Force and Navy suffered a heavy toll in providing support. Many of the nearly 10,000 naval and air personnel who were killed under non-combat circumstances died in aircraft accidents during supply missions. All told, the three air services (including the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing) lost more than 2,000 planes but took an immense number of enemy lives. In addition to lost aircraft, 82 Navy ships were hit — five were sunk, including four minesweepers.

Such losses contributed heavily to the controversial nature of the Korean War. Gen. Omar N. Bradley reckoned that Korea was "the wrong war, in the wrong place, at the wrong time, with the wrong enemy . . . Frankly, a great military disaster." Apparently concurring, the Truman Administration in December, 1950, abandoned all notions of military victory there. For the first time in American military history,

the nation was forced to fight a war in which the enemy homeland was essentially declared off limits.

In the accordion war waged from 1951 on, the enemy body count became paramount. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway made it clear to his field commanders that real estate was worthless; what he wanted was dead Chinese. Opportunities to comply with Ridgway's orders were abundant.

like the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon, Seoul and Chosin Reservoir were supplemented by Heartbreak Ridge, the Punchbowl, the Iron Triangle, Old Baldy, Porkchop Hill and the Berlin-Nevada Complex.

Static warfare claimed exactly half as many men as were killed and wounded during the fierce war of maneuver. Artillery duels played a large part in this phase of the war. At



Inchon was Gen. Douglas MacArthur's greatest victory of the Korean War.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Human-wave assaults accompanied by blaring bugles, rolling drums, clashing cymbals and ear-piercing whistles were nerve-wracking to GIs but incredibly costly to Peking. In fact, Chinese units suffered 64% of the 1,467,000 dead and wounded sustained by Communist forces in Korea.

Static trench warfare — known as the "frozen war" — reminiscent of World War I was the norm once a main line of resistance (MLR) was established. After 1951, Korea became mostly a patrol war, particularly one waged at night. This was euphemistically referred to as "active defense." Combats for tactical features typified the fighting. Headline-making battles

one point, 24,000 artillery shells a day fell on U.S. lines. Peak was reached in June, 1953, when 2.7 million rounds were expended by U.S. forces. Overall, more artillery was fired in Korea than in all of WWII.

Midway through the war, Korea left newspaper headlines as well as America's consciousness. Public support was ambivalent — fluctuating from high initial approval when U.S. troops were winning to a dramatic dip in enthusiasm after Chinese intervention. Yet, "throughout the affair in Korea, the people of the U.S. remained serene in the conviction that their cause in East Asia, however frustrating, was noble and just," wrote one

historian.

After Truman left office, a new approach to ending the deadlock was initiated. President Eisenhower's policy was to "Koreanize" the war. He felt that "if there must be a war there, let it be Asians against Asians, with our support on the side of freedom." By this time U.S. troops had already borne most of the West's burden for that freedom. Before the armistice was concluded, 1.5 million Americans had served on Korean soil.

U.S. ground forces' strength peaked in July, 1953, at 302,483, including Marine and Navy personnel under U.S. Army operational control. Over 90% of non-Korean UN combat dead — 33,629 — were Americans. Another 20,615 GIs died from other causes such as disease and accident. Some 103,284 U.S. servicemen also were seriously wounded.

Chances of surviving wounds were greatly improved during the Korean War because of the introduction of helicopters in January, 1951. Since medical evacuation was much more rapid, many men survived who otherwise would have died. However, amputation and crippling wounds to the lower extremities occurred at a far greater rate than in WWII. In spite of their casualties, U.S. forces displayed tenacity under the harshest of conditions.

A veteran of Korea and WWII remarked: "The courage, the absolute sacrifice that these boys have been willing to make and did make, these are the things you'll always remember." British military historian Edgar O'Ballance wrote of the GI, "His conduct in battle was of an exceedingly high standard . . . Despite the negative effects of home front disenchantment on morale, the spirit and cheerfulness of American soldiers remained amaz-

ingly high."

On the home front the public mood was best characterized as apathetic. Donald E. Johnson, a future head of the Veterans Administration, asked in 1953, "Can you blame our troops for low morale? They are dying and shedding their blood in a hopeless war, while they are forgotten at home."

When the war inconclusively ended in a truce still in effect, "There were no celebrations. News of the armistice signing flickered across the news lights

wood even directly criticized battlefield valor in Korea. This occurred despite the fact that 131 Medals of Honor were awarded for heroism during the war. Countless other acts of courage went unrecognized on the movie screen as well.

Literary characterizations were of resigned men stoically accepting their fate. To this day only a handful of works have attempted to delve into the innermost feelings of the Korean War veteran. Most books focus on the



Air Force F-86 Sabrejets assured American command of the skies in Korea. JSAF PHOTO

of Times Square; people stopped to read the announcement, shrugged, and walked on; no cheering throngs assembled," wrote Joseph Goulden in "Korea: The Untold Story."

Ex-servicemen experienced a collective cold shoulder from the nation. Fehrenbach, a tank commander in Korea, wrote: "There was now very little of the heroes' welcome for returnees of the Korean War. The American people did not quite know how to regard a war they had not won."

Korean veterans kept a low profile and quickly submerged their identity into the larger veteran community — and for good reason. Charles Moskos, an internationally respected military sociologist, observed: "The eventual stalemate of the Korean conflict contributed to an inverted placement of blame for the war's unsatisfactory outcome. The American soldier himself was held up to question."

Popular culture reflected this distorted view. Between 1951 and 1965, over 50 films were produced using Korea as a backdrop. Combat in Korea was cinematically depicted as totally grim with little heroic compensation. In complete contrast to WWII, Holly-

wood even directly criticized battlefield valor in Korea. This occurred despite the fact that 131 Medals of Honor were awarded for heroism during the war. Countless other acts of courage went unrecognized on the movie screen as well.

political aspects of the war at the expense of the men who fought it. The much-touted TV program *M*A*S*H* also failed to portray GIs in a positive light. Dr. H. Richard Hornberger, author of the novel upon which the series was based and a veteran of the 8055th MASH unit, felt the CBS series "sometimes trampled on my memories . . . My characters weren't so liberal. The series seems to make the North Koreans the heroes and the Americans bad guys."

Another facet of the war yet to be resolved is the lingering question of POW/MIAs. Some 7,140 Americans were taken prisoner in Korea — 2,701, or 38%, died in captivity. Many of the 5,639 U.S. deaths attributed to North Korean war crimes were committed in the prison camps. Moreover, 944 known U.S. POWs were not accounted for at the time of the armistice.

Yet an estimated 700 Americans were reportedly sighted late in 1953 in North China. And on Aug. 4, 1955 — two years after the Communists said all POWs had been repatriated — 11 U.S. airmen were released by Peking. More recently a Romanian engineer working in North Korea

KOREA

claims to have seen 50 Caucasians there in their 50s, which is now the average age of Korean vets.

A long-forgotten Congressional resolution (H. 140) states: "Resolved that it is the sense of the Congress that the President . . . should make the return of the 450 American prisoners of war still imprisoned by Communist forces the foremost objective of the foreign policy of the United States." That resolution was passed on March 12, 1957, and 389 American POWs still remain unaccounted for.

The North Korean regime remains as recalcitrant as ever on this issue. Only last February, for the first time since the end of the Korean War, the identity of U.S. MIA remains was revealed by the Communists. The Stalinist state, however, refuses to release the remains.

The MIA question remains a poignant reminder of the war. In the National Cemetery of the Pacific, the Courts of the Missing record the names of 8,194 men listed as missing and/or unidentified from Korea. Three decades ago Sgt. Ned Lyle placed a set of those remains in the nation's capital. On Memorial Day, 1958, the Unknown Soldiers of WWII and Korea were laid to rest in what one writer called "the last time that Americans were to see or hear a public ceremony of national significance honoring the American warrior." (Of course that was before Vietnam.)

Perhaps now America can come to grips with the war's outcome. As historian Richard Rovere wrote: "We accomplished in Korea what we set out to do — repel armed aggression and demonstrate the efficacy of collective security. In terms of Truman's war aims, a victory of sorts was won in Korea . . . History will cite it as the turning point of the world struggle against Communism." ■



U.S. casualties reached 157,530 in the three years of hostilities.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

A MEMORIAL TO THE FORGOTTEN VETERANS

Korean vets long ago melted into the mainstream of American society. But their entitlement to national recognition is as valid today as ever, if not more so. The time has finally arrived for the GIs who stopped Communist aggression in Northeast Asia to receive their proper place in history, as the VFW has urged for years.

Thirty-five years have passed since the guns fell silent along the demilitarized zone of Korea. And only now is the erection of a memorial to the veterans of Korea approaching reality. It is difficult to understand why it has taken the nation so long to recognize the service of these Americans, but apathy, a national desire to submerge an unpleasant memory and politics are all part of the explanation.

Currently the only national reminders of the sacrifices made on the battlefield are a white pine donated by the Korean government in 1965, and a Korean War Memorial Bench placed next to the pine in Arlington National Cemetery last year by the Korean War Veterans Association and No Greater Love. (NGL is a humanitarian organization founded in 1971 to provide programs for children of Americans killed as a result of war and terrorism.) Previous efforts to erect a more substantive monument failed to generate sufficient interest in public or government circles.

Something that should have been

done in the 1950s became politically inopportune during the '70s. As Don McLeod pointed out in *Insight* magazine: "In this day of rapprochement with China, it is even impolite to talk about the war in which China was the principal adversary." But the obligation to symbolize the sacrifices of Korea could not be denied after the construction of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Asked one veteran simply, "Why no memorial to the 54,000 American dead of that other Asian war?" No one could answer.

In 1981, a naturalized U.S. citizen named Chayon Kim, whose life had been saved by GIs in Korea, launched an effort to build a monument. Her efforts coincided with those of Korean War veterans and the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) — the federal agency in charge of U.S. memorials worldwide. ABMC, in fact, had been pushing for a memorial since 1968.

The House of Representatives approved a memorial bill in November, 1985. One year later the Senate passed a similar measure sponsored by Sen. Bill Armstrong (Colo.). On Oct. 28, 1986, President Reagan signed into law the Korean War Memorial Act. The ABMC was designated to coordinate design competition and construction of the memorial. Congress authorized \$1 million (as yet unappropriated) in seed money with the stipulation that an additional \$5 million be raised from private sources.

To date, \$2.2 million has been raised from 3,044 individuals, organizations and corporations. Hyundai Motor America, a subsidiary of a Korean company based in Garden Grove, Calif., has contributed \$1.2 million. At its 1987 convention the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary provided a grant of \$250,000. VFW Posts throughout the nation are continuing the fund-raising drive. Other veterans' groups have joined in.

Says VFW Commander-in-Chief Earl L. Stock, "Korean War veterans will not be forgotten. There is a memorial in the nation's capital for virtually every veteran since the Revolutionary War, and we intend to play a pivotal role in seeing to it that there is one for Korea."

Entertainer Bob Hope has agreed to serve as the VFW's honorary chairman to raise funds for the national Korean War Memorial. Stock has announced. "We are deeply honored that Bob has agreed to serve in this capacity and once again lend assistance to veterans. I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to Bob's 85th birthday than for all of us to send a birthday card with a donation to the National Korean War Memorial Fund." Address to Bob Hope, 3808 Riverside Drive, Burbank, Calif. 91505.

Contributions to the memorial also can be sent to VFW-Korean Memorial Fund, National Headquarters, Broadway & 34th Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64111.

Last September President Reagan appointed a panel of 12 distinguished Americans to the Korean War Veterans Memorial Board to select a memorial design. The panel is chaired by retired Army Gen. Richard G. Stilwell and includes ex-Vietnam POW retired USAF Col. Fred V. Cheney and Medal of Honor recipient retired Marine Gen. Raymond Davis.

Interior Secretary Donald P. Hodel took the final legislative step on Veterans Day, 1987, and requested an exemption for erection of the memorial in the Mall. Formal approval was jointly authorized by Congress. Four tentative sites have been selected. Once a site and design are approved, a construction permit can be issued. ■

THE FIRST TO FIGHT

By Hubert L. Koker

In the rain-soaked predawn darkness of Sunday, June 25, 1950, the armed forces of Communist North Korea crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea.

In Japan, soldiers of the 507th Antiaircraft Artillery, Automatic Weapons Battalion, slept the sleep of the peaceful, not knowing the part they would play in the historic events of the next two weeks.

As radio and telephone reports telling of the extent and size of the North Korean attack reached his office in Seoul, Ambassador John J. Muccio radioed the State Department at 10:26 a.m. (Korean time), June 25, that "It would appear from the nature of the attack and the manner in which it was launched that it constitutes an all-out offensive against the Republic of Korea."

By Sunday afternoon, U.S. troops on occupation duty in Japan were placed on alert. News from Korea was spotty and inaccurate. On Mon-

day, Lt. Col. William S. Fultz, commanding the 507th AAA AW Battalion at Camp McGill in southern Japan, was tasked by the command-

them once the situation was sized up on the spot.

Soon, the planes roared down the runway — destination Korea.

On the way over, most of the men dozed or slept fitfully as the planes droned steadily over the Japan Sea, across the east coast of Korea and inland over the mountainous terrain toward their destination. For some it was their first plane trip.

Kimpo airfield near Seoul was lost to the North Koreans two days be-

With the immediate chores of field occupation completed, the men of the detachment took time off to survey their new surroundings — mountains with rice-paddy valleys and corridors leading through the ring of hills surrounding the airstrip. Suwon lay to the northeast. No apparent action was pending.

As the sun was dropping behind the hills at 4:15 p.m., the situation changed. In the distance appeared what most of the men at the gun

er of the 5th Air Force, Gen. Earl E. Partridge at Johnson Air Force Base, to organize an antiaircraft detachment from the 507th for "an air-transported mission." Although the exact destination and further details were guarded with secrecy, most of the men in the battalion volunteered for assignment with the detachment. As events developed, this unit (called Detachment X) would spearhead the Army combat units in Korea.

The detachment would man four M-55s, quadruple-mounted .50-caliber machine guns. Three officers and 32 enlisted men were selected for the assignment. Although care was exercised to ensure that all chosen for the mission had at least six months remaining on their Far East Command tour, it was later discovered that two men who had been selected would have to re-enlist before they could make the trip. As a result Sgt. William S. Hasse and Pfc. Clarence I. Myers — standing in full field pack beside the C-54 transport planes that would carry them to their mission — raised their right hands and were sworn in by Capt. Harry Mooney, battalion adjutant. This ceremony extended their enlistments and made them eligible for the mission.

Early Thursday morning, June 29, all was in readiness; men, ammunition and equipment were loaded aboard the C-54s. Lt. Col. Fultz gave last-minute instructions to the detachment commander, Capt. Frank J. McCabe, and his assistant, 2nd Lt. Joseph V. Bailey.

In a briefing just prior to departure, Maj. Stanley J. Paciorek, battalion executive officer, told the detachment its mission was to establish air defense of an airfield in Korea and that particulars would be given



Anti-aircraft guns go into action to drive off or destroy enemy aircraft.

fore. The bridges over the Han River just south of Seoul were destroyed early on the morning of the 28th.

Shortly after 9 a.m., the planes came in for a touchdown at the Suwon airfield about 20 miles south of Seoul. A C-54 lay burning at the end of the runway, a grim reminder of an earlier flight attack. The fire at the end of the runway and the threat of further attacks made speed essential.

The men swung into action so rapidly that many did not have time to remove their Mae West life jackets. The M-55s were unloaded from each plane as it rolled to a stop on the field. With the aid and eager assistance of Korean soldiers, the weapons were emplaced in primary positions in record time.

No sooner were the guns in position than Lt. Col. Anthony F. Story landed the C-54 Bataan with Gen. Douglas MacArthur and his inspection staff. The crews continued to improve their gun positions, helped by Korean soldiers; the language barrier was the only problem between the Koreans and members of the detachment.

positions thought were four P-51 Mustangs. They soon proved otherwise. Most men in the detachment expressed difficulty in distinguishing between the North Korean Yak-9 fighters and the American P-51 Mustangs and had to depend largely on the hostility of airplanes before taking them under fire.

"Looking toward the town about four miles away, we heard an explosion, and seconds later we caught it," recounted Sgt. Melvin E. Tyra.

"The four planes approached the strip from the northeast at about 1,400 feet," said Capt. McCabe. "They formed with a pair in front followed by the other two in single file and power-glided on our position area, in an apparent attempt to destroy planes parked near the runway. They made four passes, dropping three medium-light bombs, and strafed the field at each pass. One of the attacking fighter planes hit by gun fire crashed beyond the field. The second, obviously crippled, was losing altitude as he left the area. I labeled it a probable, and its destruction was confirmed a short time later by South Korean rural police

KOREA

who reported finding the wreck close to the place where it was last seen."

A C-47 on the edge of the airfield was destroyed in this action.

One of the planes dove on Sgt. Sidney T. Holman's gun section and attacked it by dropping bombs in trail, while a row of cannon shells tore up the earth on both sides of the gun section. Sgt. Hasse got a neat crease in his helmet, and immediately after pulling the operating handle of his machine gun, Pvt. Harland S. Scoville saw it shot away. Pfc. Thomas Merante received a broken leg from a piece of concrete thrown from the runway by a bomb explosion. [Merante is a member of Post 1314, Hudson, N.Y.] Gun positions were selected close to the runway because of the muddy rice paddies surrounding the field. The plane was later destroyed, and the pilot, a North Korean Air Force major, was captured by the police. At no time during the action did any men of the detachment leave the guns.

Crews continued to improve gun positions, and all was quiet until 8 p.m. when a dusk patrol of three North Korean fighters came over on two strafing passes. The guns went into action again, but no kills were made. The fighters, now warier of the ack-ack, fired only short bursts and were driven off after two passes. It was growing dark now, and guards, supplemented by Korean soldiers, were established about the field. The night passed uneventfully, but the crews at their gun positions got little rest between guard tours.

Early in the morning of the 30th, a C-47 cargo plane arrived carrying the six communications men headed by WO Darrell M. Clagett, who immediately began to establish and improve communications under Capt. McCabe's direction. Phones were installed to the guns where runners had been previously employed.

That morning a C-54 with much needed supplies and ammunition

for the detachment developed engine trouble just short of the runway. It came over, circled and decided not to land on the short strip, so it returned to its base in Japan. The problem of ammunition and food supply now fell on Capt. McCabe's shoulders. He scrounged the area. He got some ammunition from the South Koreans and some food from the other units crowding into Suwon.

Shortly after 1 p.m. on the 30th, five more airplanes appeared. Three were obviously F-80s, and two several hundred feet below looked like P-51s. WO Clagett asked Capt. McCabe, "What are they?"

Capt. McCabe replied, "I'm not sure yet."

Clagett continued, "Well, I guess we'll know if they peel off and start shooting." As he voiced the final word, the two lower planes did just that! The guns immediately took them under fire, but no kills were made. The planes splattered the area with 23mm cannon shells that burst upon impact, spraying pellets. One of these pellets slightly wounded Pfc. Lawrence E. Rogers. The F-80s gave chase and shot down the two strafers.

The rest of the afternoon following the attack was quiet, with no dusk patrol like the day before. By 9:15 p.m. Lt. Bailey received word from Advanced Command, General Headquarters, Far East Command, (ADCOM GHQ FEC) to prepare to evacuate the airstrip. ADCOM GHQ had been at Suwon since June 28 under the command of Brig. Gen. John Church. It was also learned that the South Korean line had been penetrated by North Korean ground forces, and Suwon's encirclement was imminent.

Orders were relayed to the gun sections to prepare for movement, and three trucks were obtained from the South Korean Army at the field to evacuate the detachment south. Guns were spiked, as ordered, and the convoys moved out quietly with-

out lights. The convoy had moved some 15 miles down the highway picking its way through Korean civilian vehicles and refugees that crowded the roadway, all going the same direction. A halt was called near Osan, and Capt. McCabe was given orders for the detachment to provide a rearguard action. This called for a 45-minute wait. The purpose, McCabe learned later, was to provide protection for ADCOM GHQ, that was also displacing south.

When the move resumed, difficulty with the Korean trucks forced abandonment of the three originally obtained, the last about 25 miles from the detachment's destination. By a system of walking and shuttling, the detachment finally reached its southern destination.

During the stay at the new headquarters near Taejon that lasted until the night of July 2, members of the detachment worked with other personnel to secure the airstrip. At 8 o'clock that night, the detachment received word that it was to be airlifted back to Japan for re-equipping and return to action. The detachment had participated in the first organized ground combat action in Korea.

Detachment X personnel flew home on the planes that brought troops from Japan that would help make up Task Force Smith, the first U.S. infantry troops to join the fighting. When they returned to their home station, Lt. Col. Fultz and the rest of the battalion welcomed their heroes with a steak dinner. It had not been easy!

Purple Heart Medals were awarded to Capt. McCabe, Cpl. Burley T. Blankenship, Pfc. Merante, Frank A. Pierce and Rogers.

Most of Detachment X personnel later returned to Korea with antiaircraft units, but theirs, like other antiaircraft units, no longer had North Korean planes to engage. ■

THE
JOY OF
FLIGHT

Story by Philip F. Van Pelt

People who jump out of airplanes for fun are incomprehensible to me. I was forced to jump out of one once, and the experience cured me of any desire to repeat the performance.

I was no stranger to commercial air travel in 1952, having practically commuted back and forth to Charleston, S.C., from Chicago via DC-3 in the late 1940s and having been flown across the Pacific on a DC-6 by a Defense Department needing replacement infantry officers in Korea on a fairly heavy basis.

So, when Capt. Charles M. Simpson III, commander of Co. K, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Division, ordered me to lead an ambush patrol roughly a mile into Chinese lines and gave me a chance to view the area that I and my men would try to cover at night from the air the day before, I jeeped back to an artillery-spotter-plane airstrip in the rear without hesitation. After all, it was a chance for a few hours of relative safety, or so I thought.

the wing fabric maybe four feet from my head, and the pilot put the plane into a quick diving turn to the right. A sudden silence enveloped the plane, and the owl leaped into my throat.

"Well, I'll be goddamned," the pilot said. "They got us." He leveled the wings of what suddenly had become a glider and aimed the craft due south toward our lines.

"Sometimes there are days like this," he said calmly. "I don't think this thing will stay up long enough for us to land safely in friendly territory. Remember how to remove my seat?"

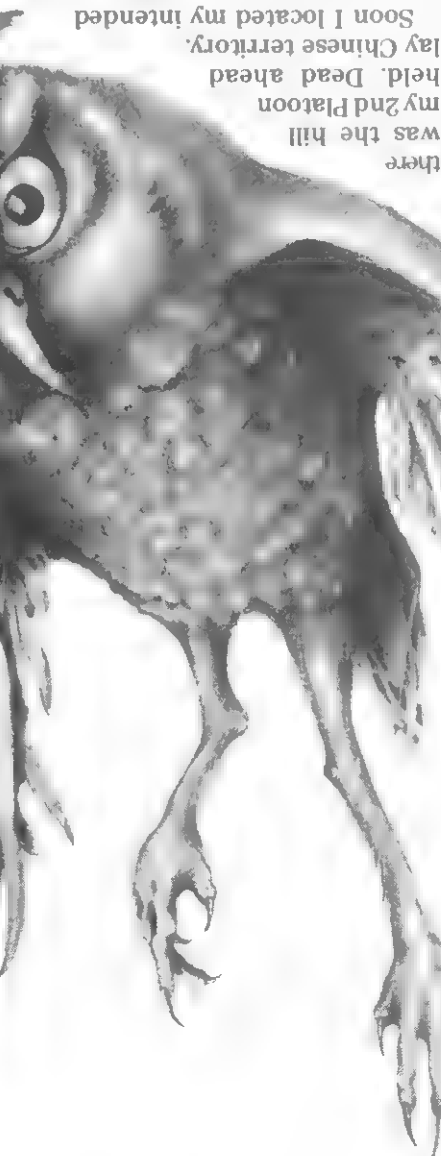
I nodded, unable to talk around the owl.

"Good," he said shortly. He opened the door to his right, swung one leg outside the plane onto a step there, smiled broadly as he turned in his seat and said, "See you soon, I hope." With that, he stepped out into space.

I leaned forward, pulled the cotter pins and threw the pilot's seat overboard. Then I crawled forward, stuck one fearful leg out the door until I located the step, straightened and fell backward.

As near as I've been able to figure it since, I left the plane at about 750 feet. All I actually recall is the tremendous, groin-pulling shock as the chute opened and jerked me instantly upright. I looked fearfully down to find a muddy rice paddy coming up toward me at breakneck speed, and before I could begin to think about how to land, it smacked me right in the face.

Nearly dazed, I extricated myself from the parachute harness, found my M-3 submachine gun lying a few feet away and wriggled out of the rice paddy toward a small hedge. Peeping through the hedge, I discovered that I was right on the river bank, a break for me, because the



Soon I located my intended patrol area, where a faint trail crossed the Hantanchon River at a small sandy beach. We circled the area two or three times and then wheeled away in the opposite direction so as not to disclose our interest too plainly to the enemy.

As we reached our farthest penetration of Chinese territory, we heard popping noises. When I asked the pilot what they were, he merely gestured out his window. I looked down at flashes of light and realized we were being shot at.

"Don't worry," the pilot said. "They've never hit me yet. Wanta swing back for one more look?"

"Yes," I shouted, figuring that every chance I got to look at the area from above might help me on the ground at night. Obeying, the pilot completed a 360-degree turn and swung once again toward my patrol area. Suddenly, the popping intensified. A row of holes abruptly appeared in

In an L-19, the pilot explained, the pilot sat in the front seat and the observer (me) in the rear. He tipped his seat forward and, when I struggled hind-end-first into the tiny ob-server's seat, showed me how to attach the ripcord of the chute I was sitting on to an overhead framing member. Before entering the plane himself, he also showed me how his seat was attached to the cabin floor by two cotter pins, one at each side. Then he clambered into the seat, closed the door, started the engine and guided the high-winged monoplane into takeoff position at the end of the airstrip.

Just then I had another thought. Over the roar of the engine, I asked if we didn't need reserve chutes. "Naw," he shouted back over his shoulder, "if we have to jump from the altitude we'll be flying at, you won't have time to worry about a second chute." I suddenly realized what he meant, and the small, cold owl dug his talons into my stomach.

The next thing I knew, we were airborne, weaving lazily along over the wrinkled Korean terrain. Suddenly, looking out, I knew where we were. There was 3d Battalion HQ, and there was Co. K's CP, and right

The first hint I got that a flight in an Army L-19 might differ significantly from one in a commercial airliner came when the pilot handed me a chute and showed me how to strap myself into it. Parachutes, I suddenly realized, are not standard equipment on civilian airliners. A small, cold owl abruptly materialized inside my stomach.

CONVENTION NEWS

AIRLINE BARGAIN FOR CHICAGO

Now is the time to begin planning in earnest to attend the 89th National Convention in Chicago, Aug. 19-26, and if you are going to fly there, take advantage of American Airlines' and Veterans Travel Service's (VTS) special offer to VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members.

American Airlines, the VFW's official carrier to the 89th National Convention, with its 266 daily flights to Chicago, is offering 5% off its lowest available airfares, and Veterans Travel Service is giving an additional 3% off for a total savings of 8%.

In addition, there are complimentary luggage tags and an opportunity to win two free trips to anywhere American Airlines flies in the U.S. or overseas. A drawing for these will be held at the National Convention.

So call VTS at 1-800-325-9377 or American Airlines' meeting services desk at 1-800-433-1790. If you call American Airlines, be sure to ask for STAR File # S 054645.

And be sure to register early by using the accompanying coupon for an additional savings of \$2 because the registration fee at the Convention is \$8.

One other thing. Remember that each Post is required by the National By-Laws to register one or more delegates. Don't let your Post be the one that ignored this rule.

Though all VFW National Conventions are chock full of action, chances are that in the afternoons and evenings you will have free time. So you might try visiting Chicago's Miracle Mile where America's top department stores and specialty shops have the latest styles. Then not far away is Water Tower Place, called the "world's most beautiful one-stop shopping emporium." The State Street Mall is said to be the world's biggest outdoor shopping complex. Then there is Wabash Avenue's Jewelers' Row with jewelry of all sorts. In Oak Street's converted brownstones are international designer boutiques.

Shops filled with antique glassware and Early American furniture can be found on North Wells Street.

Farther away is Oak Brook Center, one of the nation's largest suburban

mall. Its landscaped rest areas enable visitors to refresh themselves after touring its shops. Long Grove is a recreated German-American town with more than 60 specialty shops and restaurants.

Chicago is called America's Convention Capital and no wonder. The city boasts 25,000 hotel rooms downtown alone, with 20,000 more in suburban areas, including 10,000 in the Rosemont/O'Hare Airport district. For the VFW National Convention, delegates will be using six hotels downtown.

With exhibit space expanded to more than 1.8 million square feet, McCormick Place will be the scene of the Joint Opening Session Aug. 22, held at Arie Crown Theater with the Ladies Auxiliary.

Like to try new kinds of cuisine? Maybe the sort that will bring back memories of overseas service? To the standard Italian, Chinese and Greek have been added Afghan, Korean, Mexican, Thai, Indian and Armenian. The mix now includes Cajun, plus American Southwestern and Californian, too, not to mention some of the world's best steaks and deep-dish Chicago-style pizza. So if you venture out at night to eat, you have a lot to choose from.

If you take pride in your ethnic heritage (and who doesn't), you can visit many neighborhoods where nationality ties have been preserved. Many museums are devoted to this cosmopolitan mosaic that is Chicago. There are the Polish Museum of Chicago, the Oriental

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Register in Advance for 1988 National Convention

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CHICAGO

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Institute, Spertus Museum (Jewish), the Swedish American Museum, the Ukrainian National Museum and the du Sable Museum of African-American History, named for a black man, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the first settler (1779) of what became Chicago.

If you decide to take any tours of the city, however, National Convention Director Omar Kendall urges that VFW delegates, their families and friends support only the tour groups sponsored or approved by the National Convention Organization since "we obtain the best in the area at the least expense, and this year we have associated ourselves with a local Chicago agency that specializes in tours most suited to our type of convention."

There is a lot to do and see in Chicago, so get in your early registration form.

WANT TO BE YOUR OWN BOSS? TRY SBA



LIN WILSON

If you as a veteran want to make the capitalist system work for you by going into business for yourself, you should check out the Small Business Administration's programs especially designed for veterans. At the 88th National Convention, the VFW passed Resolution 785 supporting SBA's "special consideration" for veterans, their survivors and dependents but urged that veterans' programs be more clearly defined. In this discussion, Vincent Rios, SBA regional veterans affairs officer in San Francisco, tells what SBA can do to help you.

Some veterans may have the experience, resources, and desire necessary to start their own businesses, but these new entrepreneurs, unaware of the resources that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) can provide, may not survive the first two years in business.

The veterans' program is a combination of separate and unique programs, which, when brought to bear on the needs and aspirations of veterans, can be a powerful tool or resource to create strong and viable employers for the local community, as well as increase entrepreneurship with the resultant tax-revenue benefits for state and national government.

SBA offers a variety of business development courses throughout the country. SBA also provides direct, one-to-one business counseling. Training and counseling are performed by SBA personnel on a wide variety of other resources, including the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Small Business Development Centers, Small Business Institutes and a wide range of both nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

The Veterans Entrepreneurial

Training program provides courses, counseling, workshops and support to build a business plan and develop the managerial skills necessary to turn a business concept into a reality. A candidate for this program must have made a firm commitment to establish or purchase a small business enterprise or must presently own a small business. This individual must be comfortable charting new territory, tolerating risk and possess the ability to work through the detailed planning necessary for a successful business operation.

To qualify, a candidate must be a veteran of military service or the spouse or survivor of a deceased veteran. Each participant must spend at least 60 hours in classes and workshops, be willing to participate in follow-up activities, and be able to invest personal resources in courses and materials.

Last year, grants were awarded in three states, Hawaii, California and Ohio, totaling \$258,500. The law requires that grants be awarded only to nonprofit/volunteer organizations. Sub-grants can be made by the grantee to educational institutions or profit, private firms.

In the Guarantee Loans(7(a)Busi-

ness Loans) financial program, loans are made by commercial lenders and backed by an SBA guarantee. In recent years, veterans have received an increasing percentage of the agency's guarantee loans. This is the principal lending program of the agency.

While the dollar amount of direct lending by SBA has declined substantially in the past few years, direct loans to veterans have increased as a percentage of all direct lending by the agency. The principal direct-lending program for veterans was established by Congress in 1983 with Public Law 97-72 under the generic title Direct Loans to Vietnam-Era and Disabled Veterans.

The Handicapped Assistance Loan (HAL II) program is another loan program that offers low-interest direct loans to businesses owned at least 51% by the handicapped. This includes disabled veterans.

SBA's surety bond program makes the bonding process accessible to small and emerging contractors who, for whatever reasons, find bonding unavailable to them. The agency is

continued on page 39

VFW Leaves Its Mark



As these pictures show, the VFW makes its presence felt in all parts of the United States and overseas. Whether it's helping veterans, encouraging the youth or recognizing a job well done, the VFW is there.

Commander Alvin G. Stanley, of Post 4590, Plant City, Fla., displays a \$10,000 check presented to Department Commander John E. Hamilton at the groundbreaking for the Florida VFW Veterans Home

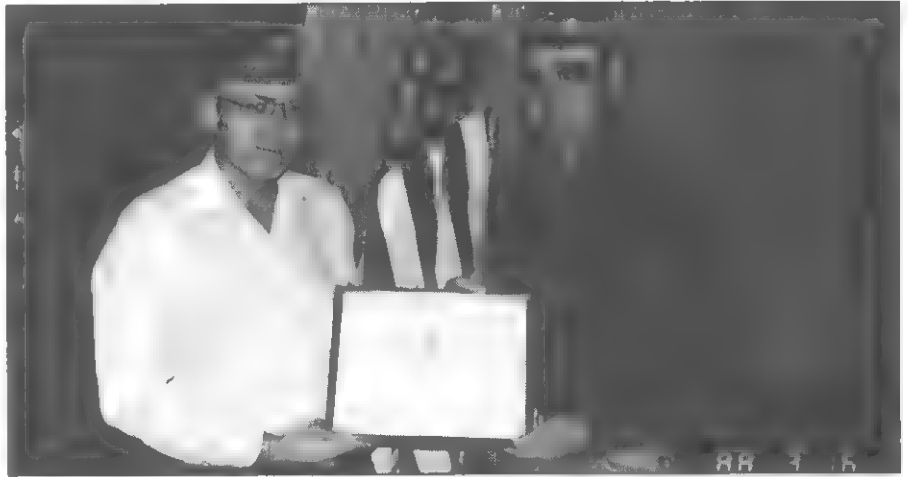


During a recent visit to Europe, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Larry W. Rivers receives a souvenir plaque from Maj. Gen. Isaac Smith, deputy chief of staff, U.S. Army, Europe. The plaque bears the USAEUR and 7th Army insignias. A similar memento was given to Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Wally Hogan, who accompanied Rivers



Past Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab was a recent visitor to Post 1876, Anaconda, Mont. With him are Bill Boskovich, 80, the oldest Post member, and Post Commander Matt Schalk

Post 6562, Milford, Ohio, receives the AmVets National Commander's Distinguished Service Award for permitting newly-formed AmVets Post 131 to share its Post home for monthly meetings. Accepting the award is Post Commander George Anderson, right, from AmVets Post 131 Commander Joe Welch. The award is the first to a non-AmVets organization



Voice of Democracy winners pose with Ladies Auxiliary National President Joan Katkus and Commander-in-Chief Earl L. Stock. Seated, they are Julie Ann Jackson, Mo. 4; Lori Ann Martens, Calif., 2; Frederick Speer, Europe, 1, and, standing, Scott O. Rowland, Colo., 5; Dylan P. Townsend, Wash., 6; Ziad W. Munson, Minn., 7; Heather J. Easterday, Kans., 8, and Meliesa Hawley, Mont., 9. The numerals indicate each's standing in the finals



Post 1454, Alma, Mich., marked Veterans Day by bringing 13 veterans from area nursing homes to the Post for lunch. Chatting about earlier times are Sam Hughes, a WWI and WWII veteran and member of Post 2269, Farmington Hills, Mich., and WWI veteran Grady Rogers. Hughes is 101 and Rogers is 94



Frank Fenn, of Ceres, Calif., a patient at Livermore, Calif., plays bingo, as Commander Dave Funk, of Post 4170, Hayward, Calif., sits in. The occasion was the monthly bingo game sponsored by Post 4170 and Post 1129, San Lorenzo.



Dance Chairman Chris McCahan, left, and Commander Jon Heckendorf, of Post 8097, Jessup, Md., present a \$703 check to Brig. Gen. Jack Burke, of the Maryland Vietnam Veterans Memorial Commission, for the erection of a memorial honoring Americans who served in Vietnam. The check represents proceeds from a dance held by the Post recently

Maine's Problem-solver

The Department of Maine's Legislative Chairman Leta B. Russell, a retired USAF first sergeant, is devoting a lot of time these days to apprising women veterans of their entitlements. In a recent interview with the Waterville Morning Sentinel, she said, "It is surprising there are women veterans who don't realize they are entitled to the same benefits as men." Maine has an estimated 6,600 women veterans, and if they don't know now about their entitlements, they certainly will soon, thanks to Leta Russell, who Department Adjutant Robert C. Jordan calls "our general solver of all problems."



Gloria Johnson

Woman Has Headed District

The 4th District of California, composing the southern half of Los Angeles County with 26 Posts and more than 8,500 members, has had its first woman District Commander. She is Gloria Johnson, a veteran of Army service during the Korean War. She originally joined the Ladies Auxiliary but transferred to the VFW when women veterans became eligible for membership in 1978. She served in all Post offices and on National committees. In private life, she manages the Old Town Print Shop in San Pedro.

WWII MIAs Found

Ralph W. Fink, president of the 157th Infantry Association (45th Division) and a member of Post 3502, Hershey, Pa., sends this along.

For 41 years two men stayed on the missing-in-action list from World War II. They were Pfc. Roger Caron, of D Co., and Pvt. Homer Wadlow, of L Co., who were listed as missing following a costly six-day battle with the Germans, who overran the American positions. The regiment withdrew to Reipertswiller, France.

Then in late 1986, two young Frenchmen discovered the remains of an American while probing for military artifacts. They turned out to be those of Caron. Two months later, Wadlow's remains were found 1,000 yards away.

Had they been buried by Germans or had their covered foxholes caved in under heavy artillery fire?

Coincidentally, Caron was buried in Nashua, N.H., while the 45th Division Association was holding its reunion in Oklahoma City, and Wadlow in Pilot Knob, Mo., when the 157th Infantry Association was meeting in Chicago.

Arena Dedicated

Last Veterans Day, the All Seasons Arena of Post 1326, Bismarck, N.D., was dedicated and is more than three-fourths completed. Highlight of the dedication was the presentation of a check by Commander Wally Bolte, of Post 1326, and Ladies Auxiliary President Vivian Quast to the Bismarck Recreation Council and Park Board. Since 1984, the VFW contribution toward the activities complex has totaled \$150,000. The complex at Tom O'Leary Park offers outdoor soccer, softball, tennis, golf, sledding and cross-country skiing. Over the past year, hockey has been played at the complex, as well as a figure skating show and the International Curling Bonspiel. Cost of work remaining to be done toward completion is estimated at \$600,000.

Member Meets Ex-Shipmate

A life member of Post 271, The Bronx, N.Y., Vincent Spurduto was reunited

with a WWII shipmate on the USS Muir. The shipmate was Charles Mueller, who received a plaque at the reunion for saving Spurduto's life when he was pitched overboard in a 65-degree roll. In his 11 years as an auxiliary policeman, Spurduto was honored for saving the life of a policeman during a shootout, an 18-month-old baby who fell from a third-floor window, rescuing two children from a fire and helping to disarm and arrest two knife-wielding muggers. Chances are if Mueller had not saved him, none of this would have been possible.



Earl B. Reuben

Bicentennial Commission

A member of Post 4262, Columbia, S.C., and chairman of its Voice of Democracy Committee, Earl B. Reuben also is a member of the U.S. Constitution Bicentennial Commission of South Carolina. Along with four others, he took part in the reenactment of the document's signing in Philadelphia. In addition, he and Gov. Carroll A. Campbell represented South Carolina in a program relating constitutional convention events of May 25, 1787. "I am proud of Comrade Reuben," said Post Commander Daniel Thompson, Jr.

authorized to guarantee to a qualified surety up to 80% of losses incurred under bid, payment or performance bonds issued to contractors on contracts valued up to \$1.25 million. The contracts may be used for construction, supplies or services provided by either a prime or subcontractor for government or non-government work.

Since many veterans own construction firms, their participation in the surety program always has been high. For FY 1987, 32% of all firms receiving an SBA surety bond guarantee were veteran-owned. Veteran-owned businesses were awarded over \$360 million in contracts bonded through SBA's guarantee program. For comparison, during FY 1985, 32% of contracts worth about \$325 million went to veterans.

Firms owned by individuals who are defined as socially and economically disadvantaged are eligible for participation in the 8(a) program. Under this, participants can receive noncompetitive government procurement contracts. Veterans, as a group, are not defined as socially and economically disadvantaged. If a veteran can prove eligibility, however, as an individual, he or she can participate in the program.

Veterans have typically been heavily involved in the 8(a) program. During FY 87, veteran-owned firms accounted for 22% of those registered and 24% of the contracts awarded, nearly \$350 million.

Procurement Automated Source System (PASS) is a computer-based information retrieval system in which pertinent data on small firms are maintained on automated file and forwarded to government agencies or prime contractors either automatically or upon request. The purpose of the program is to enhance the possibility of a small firm landing a contract or subcontract.

Veteran-owned businesses account for about 34% of all firms registered with PASS, and small veteran participation has held about the same for several years. ■

river flowed almost due south, toward our lines. I wormed through the hedge and crouched in the river, with only my head and the barrel of the grease gun above water.

Pausing there for a moment, I wondered about the pilot. Considering the plane's speed and the fact that he had jumped maybe a minute before I did, I figured that he must have landed half a mile further north.

Suddenly, I heard voices — Chinese voices. I shrank back under a fringe of weeds overgrowing the river bank. Soon I heard Chinese burp guns chattering some distance to the north and voices shouting. I made my way upstream some 100 yards and cautiously stood up. Peering through another hedge, I could see several Chinese soldiers maybe

200 yards away firing their weapons into the pilot's body. I crouched down into the river again, weeping in impotent fury.

By now, it was late afternoon, with the shadows of the mountains slowly lengthening. I resolved to stay where I was until full dark and then to try to work my way south in the river until I could reach friendly territory. I did so and eventually climbed quietly up the mountain my platoon held on the outpost line of resistance — dead tired, emotionally spent, sopping wet and convinced that I would never jump out of a plane again.

So far, I never have. ■

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DIV IV
Maryland
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Nebraska
Harold McChesney (5)



DIV VI
Louisiana
R.V. Martin (8)



DIV VII
Arizona
Allen F. Kent (7)



DIV VIII
Maine
Peter F. Miesburger (6)



DIV IX
Rhode Island
John Sivo (7)



DIV X
Nevada
Odie Ward (7)



DIV XI
Hawaii
Zoilo Kupukaa (3)

Post

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Post 5555
Minnesota
Jerry Courteau (2)

DIV III
Post 1326
North Dakota
Wallace Bolte (3)

DIV V
Post 9927
Ohio
David L. Turner (4)

DIV VII
Post 194
Maryland
Edward MacPherson (5)

DIV IX
Post 5865
Pennsylvania
Donald L. Walker

DIV XI
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Oklahoma
Bill Willhite (3)

DIV XIII
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Wisconsin
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DIV XIV
Post 9822
Louisiana
Russell G. Dugas (3)

DIV XVI
Post 3839
Minnesota
Clarence Fyhrlund (6)

DIV XVIII
Post 6291
Kentucky
Roger Emmert (7)

DIV XX
Post 3798
Louisiana
Thomas Rigsby (6)

County Council

DIV I
Lancaster
Pennsylvania
William K. Risser (8)

DIV III
Polk
Iowa
Theodore A. Carr

DIV II
Montgomery
Ohio
Andy S. Kedler (4)

DIV IV
Cattaraugus-Allegany
New York
Thomas Milanowski (2)

(Number in parentheses indicates number of times Commander has won this honor.)

District

DIV. I
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New York
George Trummer

DIV. II
District 21
Pennsylvania
Donald Mills (4)

DIV. III
District 19
Illinois
Otto Lunacek

DIV. IV
District 10
Nebraska
Bernie Brosnihan (3)

DIV. V
District 11
Michigan
Donald Jensen (8)

DIV. VI
District 3
Alabama
Harold Earley (4)

DIV. VII
District 17
Texas
Herman F. Hammond (2)

DIV. VIII
District 4
North Carolina
Frank P. Durbino (2)

DIV. IX
District 16
Maryland
J. Robert Pollitt (5)

DIV. X
District 11
Oklahoma
Jay Johnson (6)

DIV. XI
District 6
Arizona
John Knowles (6)

DIV. XII
District 7
Washington
Emanuel Besel (3)

National Aides-de-Camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by qualifying for the National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, award. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

Thomas W. Clark, Jr., Post 5225, West Memphis, Ark.; Don Mellon, Post 696, Owensboro, Ky.; Harold Stines, Post 891, Asheville, N.C.; Franklin R. Johnson, Post 4390, Lusby, Md.; W. A. Kent, Post 668, Birmingham, Ala.; Tony A. Wasinger, Post 9644, Ft. Logan, Colo.; Robert D. Toliver, Post 8087, Eustis, Fla.; Gene T. Bragg, Post 6020, Daleville, Ala.; Delbert H. Stanphill,

Post 6112, Belmont, Miss.; Albert Gonzales, Post 559, Riverdale, Calif.; Charles Shaffner, Post 10097, Ft. Myers Beach, Fla.; James W. Fulk, Post 1596, Lombard, Ill.; James T. Baker, Post 3937, Long Beach, Miss.; George E. Smith, Post 1650, Topeka, Kans.; E. Van Fossen, Post 3285, Frederick, Md.; Charles Hohenstein, Post 9619, Morningside, Md.; Jerome J. Oddo, Post 3323, Westland, Mich.; John Hightower, Post 3791, Flint, Mich.; Raymond P. Nowosatko, Post 5120, Detroit, Mich.; Daniel H. Hickman, Post 1003, Jefferson City, Mo.; Alphoncus A. Supernavage, Post 8840, Penns Grove, N.J.; John Polcari, Post 2867, Garfield, N.J.; Lowell L. Merritt, Post 9000, Corfu, N.Y.; Gerald Rafan, Post 1017, Dunkirk, N.Y.; Charles Cawl, Post 1419, Hamburg, N.Y.; Stanley Gertner, Post 1118, Cushing, Okla.; Jack E. Stabley, Post 5865, York, Pa.;

Richard Plumer, Post 445, James Island, S.C.; William McPherson, Post 9192, Killeen, Texas; Jose Gonzalez, Post 8782, El Paso, Texas, and Glenn N. Hampton, Post 305, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Century Award

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by qualifying for the Century Award. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 100 new and/or reinstated members. W. A. Kent, Post 668, Birmingham, Ala.; Kenneth H. Steele, Post 2280, Bellevue, Neb.; William A. Harper, Post 3513, Scottsdale, Ariz., and William T. Ferry, Post 7482, Clinton, Wash.

Order of Parade

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 98.48%

1	RHODE ISLAND	102.59
2	Hawaii	102.41
3	District of Columbia	101.40
4	New Hampshire	101.27
5	Nebraska	101.23
6	Arizona	100.873
7	Nevada	100.871
8	Virginia	100.74
9	Iowa	100.60
10	Indiana	100.31
11	Maryland	100.30
12	Louisiana	99.74
13	Minnesota	99.70
14	Missouri	99.64

15	Illinois	99.59
16	Maine	99.48
17	Idaho	99.47
18	Wisconsin	99.40
19	Michigan	99.39
20	Ohio	99.38
21	North Carolina	99.36
22	Arkansas	99.24
23	New York	99.22
24	California	99.16
25	Colorado	99.09
26	New Mexico	99.08
27	Montana	98.98
28	Florida	98.94

29	Kentucky	98.98
30	Alabama	98.83
31	Utah	98.57
32	North Dakota	98.49
33	Massachusetts	98.30
34	Georgia	98.24
35	Washington	98.18
36	Oregon	98.16
37	Connecticut	97.91
38	South Dakota	97.82
39	Oklahoma	97.79
40	Delaware	97.67
41	Pennsylvania	97.58
42	Kansas	97.51

43	South Carolina	97.39
44	Vermont	97.11
45	West Virginia	96.92
46	Alaska	96.80
47	New Jersey	96.42
48	Tennessee	96.37
49	Wyoming	96.32
50	Texas	95.32
51	Panama Canal	89.04
52	Mississippi	86.23
53	Europe	82.98
54	Pacific Areas	82.67

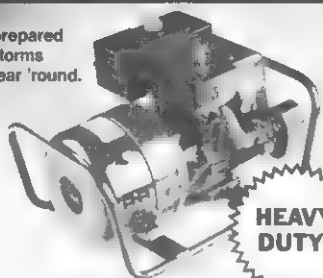
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Place No.	Location	Membership
1	Evansville, IN	4372
2	Park Ridge, IL	2742
3	Richfield, MN	2717
4	Sioux Falls, SD	2637
5	St. Clair Shores, MI	2525
6	Mobile, AL	2284
7	Alton, IL	2261
8	Rosedale, MD	2206
9	Rapid City, SD	2191
10	Mishawaka, IN	2171
11	Huntington, WV	2160
12	Bloomington, MN	2147
13	Unonton, PA	2140
14	Lincoln, NE	2136
15	Albuquerque, NM	1958
16	Guilford, MS	1948
17	Kingsport, TN	1911
18	Fort Hill, OK	1900
19	Tacoma, WA	1892
20	Manville, NJ	1836
21	Kingsport, PA	1835
22	Butler, PA	1775
23	Lima, OH	1774
24	Yakima, WA	1735
25	Tupelo, MS	1735
26	Omaha, NE	1732
27	Mechanicsburg, PA	1712
28	Chambersburg, PA	1704
29	Elyria, OH	1703
30	Tucson, AZ	1702
31	Metairie, LA	1700
32	Wichita, KS	1690
33	Columbia, SC	1690
34	Denver, CO	1648
35	Bristol, VA	1646
36	South Omaha, NE	1643
37	Joliet, IL	1630
38	San Antonio, TX	1622
39	Alexandria, LA	1613
40	Morningside, MD	1606
41	Indiana, PA	1594
42	Topeka, KS	1592
43	Everett, WA	1558
44	Indianapolis, IN	1533
45	Carmel, IN	1528
46	Spring Hill, FL	1523
47	Arlington, CA	1517
48	Festus, MO	1513
49	St. Louis Park, MN	1508
50	West View, PA	1488
51	Salina, KS	1487
52	Oakville, CT	1486
53	Davison, MI	1485
54	Dallas, TX	1483
55	Asheville, NC	1482
56	Clarksburg, WV	1473
57	New Port Richey, FL	1470
58	Sunnyslope, AZ	1462
59	Sandusky, OH	1457
60	Cheektowaga, NY	1450
61	W. Seneca, NY	1449
62	Janesville, WI	1448
63	Huntsville, AL	1447
64	Terre Haute, IN	1438
65	Brentwood, PA	1426
66	Birmingham, AL	1425
67	Albert Lea, MN	1418
68	Lemon Grove, CA	1416
69	Jefferson City, MO	1408
70	S. St. Paul, MN	1407
71	Independence, MO	1406
72	W. Memphis, AR	1386
73	Chattanooga, TN	1382
74	Mason City, IA	1374
75	S. Portland, ME	1361
76	Norfolk, VA	1359
77	Saint Cloud, MN	1354
78	Jamestown, NY	1349
79	Cape Girardeau, MO	1340
80	Kenosha, WI	1335
81	Logansport, IN	1333
82	Joliet, IL	1332
83	Oklahoma City, OK	1331
84	Lebanon, PA	1325
85	Millington, TN	1319
86	Denver, CO	1310
87	Tucson, AZ	1308
88	Baltimore, MD	1300
89	Ablene, TX	1295
90	Fargo, ND	1293
91	Odessa, TX	1291
92	Duluth, MN	1290
93	Detroit, MI	6896
94	Hendersonville, NC	5206
95	Bismarck, ND	1326
96	Greeneville, TN	1990
97	Cedar Rapids, IA	788
98	Daytona Beach, FL	1590
99	Eau Claire, WI	305
100	Sayre, PA	1536
101	Willmar, MN	1639
102	Dundalk, MD	6694
103	Hillsville, VA	1115
104	Saugus, MA	2346
105	Colorado Springs, CO	4051
106	Jackson, TN	1848
107	Austin, TX	1216
108	Malden, MA	639
109	Solon, OH	1863
110	Indianapolis, IN	1120
111	Sierra Vista, AZ	9972
112	San Antonio, TX	9186
113	Waco, TX	2148
114	El Paso, TX	8919
115	Frankfort, KY	4075
116	Central Falls, RI	1271
117	Lafayette, IN	1154
118	Spokane, WA	1435
119	Santa Clara, CA	3982
120	Russell, KS	6240
121	Hazleton, PA	589
122	Ephrata, PA	3376
123	St. Petersburg, FL	6827
124	Clarks Summit, PA	7069
125	Alamogordo, NM	7686
126	Lexington, NC	3074
127	Revere, MA	6712
128	New Albany, IN	1693
129	Marietta, OH	5108
130	Orlando, FL	2093
131	Owensboro, KY	896
132	Albany, GA	2785
133	Chula Vista, CA	2111
134	Wilmington, NJ	2640
135	Klamath Falls, OR	1383
136	Hopkins, MN	425
137	Norwalk, OH	2743
138	Springfield, IL	755
139	Tulsa, OK	577
140	Amarillo, TX	1475
141	Central, IL	2055
142	Grand Rapids, MN	1720
143	Norfolk, VA	3160
144	Gastonia, NC	9337
145	Gardner, MA	905
146	Spokane, WA	1474
147	Fort Myers Beach, FL	10097
148	Marion, VA	4667
149	Ashtabula, OH	943
150	Lake Charles, LA	2130
151	Adamstown, VA	8795
152	Silver Spring, MD	2562
153	Sheridan, MI	5065
154	Great Falls, MT	1087
155	MI Pleasant, PA	3368
156	Parkeburg, WV	1212
157	Sayreville, NJ	4699
158	Bridgeport, CT	145
159	Madeira Beach, FL	4256
160	Fairfield, OH	1069
161	Alpena, MI	2496
162	Kingston, NY	1386
163	Oak Lawn, IL	5220
164	Sarasota, FL	3233
165	Lansing, MI	701
166	Grand Rapids, MI	3023
167	Johnstown, PA	155
168	Harker Heights, TX	3892
169	Charlottesville, VA	167
170	Killeen, TX	9191
171	Coon Rapids, MN	9625
172	Jasper, IN	673
173	Rocky Mount, NC	2057
174	Garfield, NJ	2867
175	Baton Rouge, LA	3784
176	Chester, IL	3553
177	Ashland, KY	10017
178	Frederick, MD	2947
179	Somerville, MA	6800
180	Keokuk, IA	9927
181	Frederick, MD	1936
182	Jefferson, FL	8093
183	Decatur, IL	99
184	Canonsburg, PA	191

Cancer-Expense Assistance

Statistics from the American Cancer Society show more and more people are now winning the battle against cancer, thanks to early diagnosis and advances in treatment. Unfortunately, the other side of the coin is that the cost of cancer treatment is rising dramatically. An exclusive VFW-sponsored plan helps pay the high cost of cancer treatment.

Charges for extended hospital stays, testing, doctors' fees, radiation and chemotherapy, nursing care and other essentials can add up quickly. Often-times, they exceed the limits of many basic health-insurance plans.

That's why the VFW sponsors and recommends to every member the Supplemental Cancer Expense Assistance Plan. It helps pay for cancer related expenses in and/or out of the hospital. This cancer-only plan is available for pennies a day and can be a valuable supplement to your existing insurance.

What's more, it's guaranteed to any member who has never had cancer. It pays generous benefits for cancer-related medical expenses, such as hospital confinement; private duty nursing; X-ray, cobalt, radium and chemotherapy; blood and plasma; ambulance service; physicians' visits in the hospital; drugs and medicines in the hospital, and surgery according to the schedule of benefits.

This plan also features an optional premium refund provision that refunds every payment for this insurance since the original effective date of your coverage if you should die from any cause prior to the payment due date next following your 65th birthday.

For complete information and an application for this program, please write VFW Insurance Information Service, P.O. Box 13811, Philadelphia, PA 19101-3811. Or if you have any questions, call toll free 1-800-821-2606. In Missouri, call toll free 1-800-237-1765. In Kansas City and environs call 561-2338. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Central Daylight Time, any business day.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

1987-88 Series General Orders No. 8

- The following appointment is hereby announced AS ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL Wesley M. Pentecost Post 2440, Independence, Iowa
- Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 217 of the National Constitution and By Laws and Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post Officers for the current year. Post Officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed.
The installing officer shall ascertain that a Post Election Report has been mailed to Department and National Headquarters prior to the installation. If a Post Election Report has not been forwarded to Department and National Headquarters, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time he installs the Post Officers. Attention is directed to see that the proper amount of dues the Post charges is reported to Department and National Headquarters.
- FORM OF OFFICE — COUNTY, COUNCIL, AND DISTRICT OFFICERS: County Council and District Officers shall be given the officers obligation before the adjournment of the meeting at which they are elected but shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed following the Department Convention. Installing officers shall ensure that a County Council District Election Report is prepared and forwarded to Department and National Headquarters at the time of installation. County Council and District

Officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed.

- Section 221 of the National Constitution and By Laws and Manual of Procedure provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observance of Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and United States Flags are placed on the graves of deceased veterans.
- Proposed amendments to the National By Laws must be in proper form and must be approved by the Department Convention. Such proposals must be specific and definite as to the section, line or paragraph that is to be amended with exact wording as to additions and deletions. Proposed By Law amendments adopted by the Department Convention must be received by the Adjutant General immediately following the adjournment of the Department Convention, in order to meet the requirements of Section 1301 National By-Laws.
- Resolutions for consideration of the 89th National Convention must first be approved by the Department Convention. Immediately following the close of the Department Convention the Department Adjutant will transmit a copy of each approved resolution to the Adjutant General. Resolutions should bear title and number for identification purposes.
- Post Commanders are reminded that each Post must register in advance one or more delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222, National Constitution and By-Laws). Advance registration for the National Convention is six dollars (\$6) per delegate and should be mailed to the Quartermaster General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, 89th National Convention VFW Building, Broadway at 14th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111. Registration at the Convention will be eight dollars (\$8).
- Request for hotel room reservations for the VFW 89th National Convention should be made through respective Department Headquarters.
- The Board of Trustees of the Life Membership Fund is pleased to announce that the Life Member 1989 dues

continued on page 44

Are You In Parades? Like To Handle "The Merchandise?" Display & Enjoy Your Medals!

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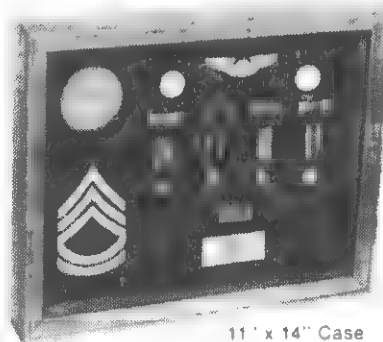
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GENERAL ORDERS

continued from page 43

payments for all Life Member plans is being continued as follows: Post dues, \$4; Department dues, \$4; National dues, \$4.

Checks for Life Member Dues payments will be issued on or about September 19, 1988, for all Life Members recorded at National Headquarters on August 31, 1988.

10 Certificates of Charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Post No. 2439 and 8393 have consolidated as Post No. 2439 Marquette Mich., Post No. 4076 and 5987 have consolidated as Post No. 4076 Chelsea, Mich., Post No. 4484 and 6739 have consolidated as Post No. 4484 Ranelle, W Va., Post No. 6922 and 8179 have consolidated as Post No. 6922 Jacksonville Fla., and Post No. 8303 and 4277 have consolidated as Post No. 8303, Lowell Mich.

11 Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post No. 4332, Washington D.C. Post No. 6920 Wellington, Fla., Post No. 8628, Sunnyvale, Calif., Post No. 8747 Bellevue Neb., Post No. 8848, Colerain Ohio, Post No. 10102, Burlington, Iowa, Post No. 10138, Holcomb, Kans., Post No. 10149, Cathedral City, Calif., Post No. 10151, Boulder, Colo., Post No. 10156, Aurora, Colo., Post No. 10160, Littleton, Colo., Post No. 10161, Denver, Colo., Post No. 10166, Carson, Calif., Post No. 10168, San Pedro Calif., Post No. 10172, Palos Verdes, Calif., Post No. 10176, Newark Calif., Post No. 10181, Allendale N.J., Post No. 10183, Hackensack, N.J., Post No. 10205 Monroeville, Ind., Post No. 10207 Westfield, Ind., Post No. 10213, Cloverdale, Ind., Post No. 10214, French Lick Ind., Post No. 10218, Southport, N.C., Post No. 10229 Mt Vernon, Ga., and Post No. 10236, Northbrook, Ill.

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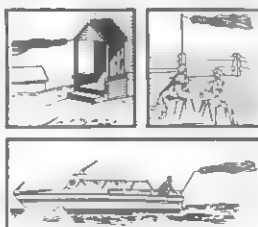
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C L A I M S

Readers are urged to help these veterans seeking claim substantiation statements. Respond directly to the person listed at the end of the claim assistance request.

If you have need of assistance in preparing a claim, contact your local VFW Service Officer. They are located at VA medical centers and regional offices.

18 Tac Recon Sqdn (Shaw AFB, SC & England: April 54-Feb 55)—Seeking anyone who remembers my loss of hearing, esp. Tom Killinger (NC), Billy Wallace (Poplar Bluff, ME), Lt Junge, Capt Jolly—Clifford Whitehead, POB 445, Webb City MO 64870

4th Inf Div, 1/69th Armor, Co C, 3d Plt (Vietnam: 1966-67)—Seeking anyone who remembers my ankle injury sustained when I fell off tank 33, esp Sp. 5 Cain—David Spada, 31591 Taft, Wayne MI 48184
503d Para Inf, 3d Bn (Negros, PI, 1945)—Seeking name of doctor who treated me, a medic, when I was wounded—Herbert Mires, Rte 2, Box 31D, Hardyville KY 14746

28th Div, 109th Inf Rgt, Tank Co, 5th Div, 110th Rgt, Tank Co (West Germany, winter 1953 or 54)—Seeking anyone who remembers my legs being frozen while on border patrol, esp Capt Funk, Lt Ralph Sawyer, Sgt David L Gauthier (St Cloud MN) & Harvey G Hoeft—John B O'Connor, 174 Kingsway Dr, N Mankato MN 56001

136th AA (Gun) Bn, Str C (North of Antwerp, Belgium, Jan 7, 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers buzz bomb hitting mess hall—Russell McNinch, 3706 Superior Ave, Apt A6, Sheboygan WI 53081
USS LCSL (3) 36 (Hiroshima, Nagasaki; 1944-46)—Anyone aboard—Raymond E Quimette, 97 Bain St, Cranston RI 02920

USS Albatross A066 (1942-45) & USS Albatross AKA66—Anyone aboard—Walter M Watson, 100 Bergen Ave, Kearney NJ 07032

526th AG Co, 22d Repl Bn (DaNang, Nov 1971)—Seeking Sp 5 DeLoach (Baltimore), Pfc's Ezzard (Brooklyn) & Cherry (SC)—Richard G Cagle, POB 1892, Hesperia CA

Ft McClellan, Ala. Co C, 7th Bn, 2d Rgt, 2d Pltn (Sept or Dec 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers me being in base hospital for two weeks, esp Pvt John R Head (Detroit)—Dallas D Henderson, 44 Carmell, Belleville MI 48111

USS Piedmont AD17 (March 1945) Seeking shipmates who remember me breaking a tooth on gangway—Charles E Muldoon, 841 Beach Rd, Angola NY 14006

74th Engr Hvy Equip Co (Korea 1950-52)—Seeking anyone who remembers injury to my leg, esp Maj Ralph Morton, Capt Blair and Sgt Mayfield—James R Boyd, 41 Manchester St, Manchester NH 03101

45th Inf Div, 179th Inf. Co M (Koryon-Ni, Korea: 1950-51)—Seeking anyone at outpost—Jerrell R Renick, 901 S Pierce St, Burnet TX 78611

USS LSM 26 (Yokohama or Yokosuka, Japan: Dec 3, 1945-April 4, 1946)—Seeking anyone who witnessed fall from drydock—Herbert Little, c/o VAMC, Bldg 19, Biloxi MS 39531

24th Div, 19th Inf Rgt, Co F (Mindanao, June-July 1945) Seeking anyone who witnessed ambush and my subsequent back injury—Adolph R Etzler, R #1, Motley MN 56466

3d Mar Div, 3d Bn, Co K—Seeking anyone with knowledge of my foot injury, esp Lt Smith, Gny Sgt Plemmons—Bryan English, 94 Brewer Dr, Asheville NC 28804

Sedalia, Mo, AB (1944-45)—Seeking anyone who remembers glider tow rope knocking S Sgt Richard B Crawford from truck during night glider landing training—Mrs R B Crawford, St Luke's United Methodist Church, 22 E Fountain Way, Fresno CA 93704

CASU 5, Fleet Air Wing 14 (North Island, Calif, 1944-45)—Seeking anyone in unit—Donald W (Curly) Ridgeway, 830 E McKinsey St, Moberly MO 65270

8th Army, 25th Inf Div, 27th Inf, 1st Bn, Co G (Nov 28 & 29, 1950, Manchurian border & Aug 7, 1950, Masan, Korea) Seeking anyone in battle in Nov or witness my truck accident in Aug—Edward M Thompson Sr, POB 1913, Matthews NC 28106

102d Evac Hosp (ETO)—Seeking Johnny Landino—Emilio S Salazar, POB 1902, Bryan TX 77806

553d AAA Gun Bn (Liege, Belgium: Oct-Nov 1944)—Seeking anyone with knowledge of my back injury—John S Skorupa, 3495 Howard Rd, Hamburg NY 14075

20th Inf. AT Co (Camp Sikes), 34th Gen Hosp, Red Cross Club (Kwang-Sul, Korea 1946-47)—Seeking witnesses to fall off gangplank in Dec 1946 at Inchon and hospitalization, esp Capt Kipp & Patricia Chupman (?)—Luigi Culbrasi, RFD 2, Box 166, Lancaster NH 03584

SS Peter Trimble Rowe (1943-44)—Seeking anyone aboard—John Maryama, Pine Villa Apts, Menelga MN 56464

USCG Port Dock, Aberdeen, Wash (1942-46) & Nav Rec Sta Pier 91 (Seattle Wash, 1950-52)—Seeking persons to substantiate claim of back injury—Fred J Patricelli, 18421 189th Ave NSE, Woodinville WA 98072

11th Avn Grp, 228th Avn Bn, Co C (Kelly Hill Helipad, Ft Benning GA, April 1965)—Seeking anyone with knowledge of my being thrown from jeep and suffering back injury—Robert R Hathaway, POB 44, McGregor MN 55760

6148th or 48th TAC K6 (Feb 20, 1951), 606 AC&W Sqn (Paengyang-do Island, Sept 17, 1951) 606th AC&W (Chodo Island, Nov 22, 1951)—Need witnesses to injuries sustained at any of the locales—Walter Hendricks, RRI D148, Wolcottville IN 46795

Guam ASD Navy 939, Hut 2, Div 9 (Jan-May, 1946)—Seeking anyone who remembers truck accident, esp Matt Sauchelli—Nelson Rizer, Box 303, Rte 3, Forest OH 45843

SS Helen Hunt Jackson Armed Guards (Dec 11, 1943-April 11, 1944)—Seeking anyone aboard, esp Oscar Sheets (NC)—Claude D Steen, POB 270329, Tampa FL 33688

3741st QM Truck Co (New Guinea, 1944) Seeking witnesses to land mine explosion between Dubador and Ora Bay which blew my truck over a cliff, esp Capt Richard B Allen, 1st Sgt Thomas F Myers, Sgts Tommy J Fall, Albert A Touchette, Anthony Bohn, LeRoy L Martin & R Adams—John E Blanchard, 239 Broussard Rd East, Lafayette LA 70503

USS Minneapolis (1940-42)—Seeking anyone who remembers mess table falling on my foot, esp Engr Bowmont and Dr Hightower—Sam Pizzo, 26th Ave SE, Apt 700, Moultrie GA 31768

64th FA Bn, Btry B (Ft Dix, NJ, spring 1949), 83d FA Bn (Ft Bragg, NC, 1951-52), 24th Div, 11th FA Bn, Btry B & 724th Ord (Korea)—Seeking anyone aware of health problems, esp Charles Dubois, Cpls Paul Taylor & Corbit, Sgts Wall & Wilson, Capt Robert Rooney, Lt Newrockie, Cpl Pienas & John Politano, Capt Ervin Fighnburg & Robert Bowil, Sgts Degees & Foster, Cpls Gordon Cortguard, Norman Gibson & Edward E Davis—Waldo O Laurence, RD 3, Box 564, Putney VT 05346

899th FA Svc Btry (Belgium, Jan 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers my frostbitten left foot, esp Pfc Frank Marelllo & Robert Nelson—Stephen Sanseverino, 227 Forbes Ave, New Haven CT 06512

3d Inf Div, 15th Inf Rgt, Co G (Korean War)—Seeking Roger R Peterson & John K Robb (CA), Edward L Hammonds (Camden NJ)—Walter M Williams, POB 2007, Cookeville TN 38502

794th Ord Co (LM), 94th Inf Div (Camp McCain, Miss)—Seeking anyone remembering me being chlorine gassed, esp 1st Sgts Rosie, Usurich & Stanley J Adamski—John E Cartwright, 913 Parker Ave, Bowling Green OH 43402

1st WAF Sqn (Eglin AFB, Fla, 1951-52)—Seeking anyone who remembers my neck and back injuries—Dorothy Sturges, 2903 N New York, Laredo TX 78043

US Pacific Fleet Air Force Combat Aircraft Service Unit (F)—Seeking Lt N L Jeglum, Chiefs Meekers & O'Brien, AMM2cs R L Anthony, J S Hutchinson, H V Pierce, AMM1cs R H Jones & Robert Clayton; AAM3cs P P Sacketti, Albert D Babcock, Rob Hunt, W F Rose, Robert A Kupper, others who may remember my back injury—Sabastion V Juliano, 34 East St, New Britain CT 06103

REUNIONS

Reunion announcements are published as a cost-free service to VFW members in good standing. To ensure timely inclusion of your announcement, all information pertaining to the event must arrive in VFW Magazine offices six months prior to the reunion. Reunion announcement forms must be used and can be obtained by writing VFW Magazine, Reunions, 34th and Broadway, Kansas City MO 64111. Publication is limited to one time per calendar year.

AIR FORCE

O/L 1, Det 1, 6002d Air Intel Svc Gp/Det 6, 6499th Spt Gp/Det 6, 6499th Fid Acty Gp/Det 6, 6499th Sp Acty Gp/Det 6, 1021st Sp Acty Gp—Bill Burhans, 4807 Korvett Dr, Woodbridge VA 22193-4616

Roswell Army Air Field/Walker AFB—Sept, Roswell NM—RAAF WAFB Vets Assn, POB 8092, Linda Vista Sta, Roswell NM 88201

Tow Target Det, Panama Canal Zone (1941-43)—Sept, Indianapolis—Albert Costa, 434 Spruce St, Clinton IN 47842

1st Ftr Grp—Sept, Dayton—C E Laechell, 4914 Pepperwood Dr, Dayton OH 45424

1st Radio Sqn (Patterson Field 1942-44)—Sept, Dayton—Horace Moore, POB 736, Rosebud TX 76570

1st Strategic Air Depot Assn (WWII)—Sept, Nashville—Earl Dosey, 7336 Mikesell Dr, Indianapolis IN 46260

2d Photo Mapping Sqn/2d Photo Recon Sqn—Sept, Ft Walton Beach FL—Albert Swihart, POB 487, Valparaiso FL 32580

7th Ferrying Grp (ATC Gore Field, Great Falls MT)—Aug, Great Falls—John Radziz, 560 Ruskin Dr, Elk Grove IL 60007

7th Photo Recon Grp (Mount Farm, Eng)—Oct, Des Moines—George Lawson, 4390 14th St NE, St Petersburg FL 33703

8th AF, 379th Bomb Grp, 525th Sqn—Truman Odell, Box 664, Henryetta OK 74437

11th AF, 58th Ftr Control Sqn (Aleutian Islands)—Sept, San Antonio—Burney Baker, R-5, Box 199, Greenville NC 27834

16th Recon Sqn (H) Sp—George Vahalik, Box 362, Amsterdam OH 43903

17th Bomb Grp/Wing (WWII/Korea)—Sept, Dearborn MI—17th Bomb Grp Reunion Assn, 6776 E Northwest Hwy, Dallas TX 75231

18th Air Depot Grp—Oct, Orlando—Thomas Adams, 240 Venice East Blvd, Venice FL 34293

18th Maint Sqn, 18th Ftr Bomb Wing (Korea 1953-54)—Claude Funk, 109 Elm St, Windsor MO 65360

20th AF HQ & HQ Sqn—Sept, Charleston—Allan Schechter, 2648 Balmoral Ave, Chicago IL 60625

22d Bomb Grp (M/H) (WWII)—Sept, Wilmington NC—Jack Clark, Box 0967, Rockledge FL 32955

36th Photo Rec Sqn—Oct, Dayton—William Lack, 1423 W Summit, Muskegon MI 49441

40th Bomb Grp—Sept, Philadelphia—Flo Mallory, POB 9252, Treasure Island FL 33740

47th Bomb Grp Assn (WWII)—Oct, Oklahoma City—Costa Chalas, 67 Trapelo Rd, Belmont MA 02178

50th Air Svc Grp, HQ Sqn—Williamsburg VA—E B Quillen, 201 Kyle St, Kingsport TN 37665

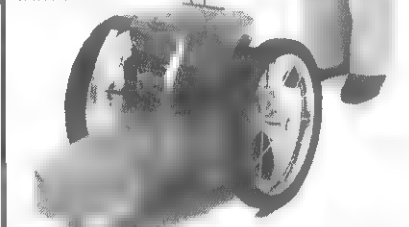
51st Ftr Sqn—Sept, St Louis—Robert Sommers, POB 105, Hudson WI 54016

95th Bomb Grp (B-17 Crew)—A L Shultz, Rte 2, Box 111, Hillsboro TX 76645

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continued on page 46

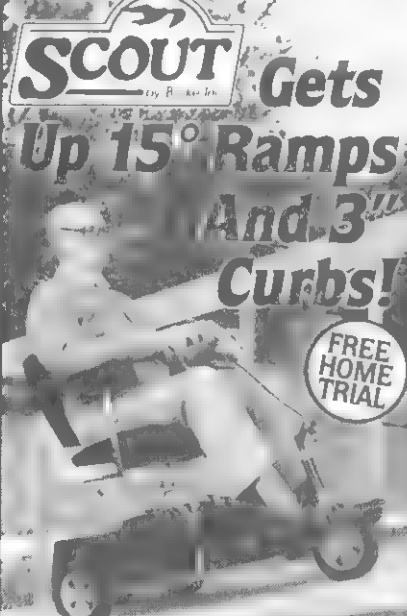

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REUNIONS

continued from page 45

96th Bomb Grp. 8th AF (WWII) -Oct, Des Moines—Thomas Thomas, 1607 E Willow Ave, Wheaton IL 60187
301st Bomb Grp. 352d Sqdn (Italy, N Africa) July, San Antonio -Jimmy King, Rte 3, Box 00, Noble OK 73068
315th Bomb Wing -Oct, Dayton—Ernest Short, 2347 Foster Ave NE, Grand Rapids MI 49505
354th Svc Sqdn -Sept, Minneapolis—Werner Betterman, Rte 2, Box 453A, Aitken MN 56431
359th Ftr Grp (WWII) -Oct, South Portland ME—Robert York, Box 336, Old Orchard Beach ME 04064
367th Ftr Grp Assn -Nov, Washington DC—367th Fighter Group Assn, 356 Auburn St, Whitman MA 02382
368th Ftr Grp Assn -Sept, Germany & France—Marvin Rosvold, 600 S 13th, Norfolk NE 68701
370th Bomb Sqdn, 307th Bomb Grp -Oct, Tyler TX—Ira Anderson, 1800 Sybil Lane, Tyler TX 75701
375th Trp Carr Grp -Oct, San Antonio—Eugene Demand, 625 So Wheaton Ave, Wheaton IL 60187
380th Bomb Grp, 528th Sqdn -Sept, Seattle—Robert Henderson, 314 Laura St, Farmington MO 63640
381st Bomb Grp (H) Mem Assn -Sept, Phoenix—T Paxton Sherwood, 515 Woodland View Dr, York PA 17402
386th Medium Bomb Grp. 8th/9th AAF (WWII) -Oct, San Diego—Ed Laube, 2422 South Redwood Dr, Anaheim CA 92806
391st Bomb Grp -Oct, Tampa—Tommy Tucker, 214 Wax Myrtle Tr, Kitty Hawk NC 27049
447th Bomb Grp. Blockbusters Band -Anthony Stevens, 47 18 169th St, Flushing NY 11358
452d Bomb Grp -Oct, Tampa—Rom Blaylock, POB 2526 New Bern NC 28561
452d Bomb Wing (L) (Korea) Aug, Long Beach—Gene Hoffman, POB 3785, Long Beach CA 90803
457th Bomb Grp -Johnnie Sartor, 202 Woodlawn Rd, Starkville MS 39759
485th Bomb Grp Sept, St Petersburg—Robert Deeds, 4643 286th St, Toledo OH 43611
492d Bomb Grp Oct, Des Moines—Elmer Clarey, 2615 Victoria Ct, Los Altos CA 94022
560th, 561st & 562d Sig AC Warn Assn (ETO) -Oct, Wilmington NC—Lee Cordell, 2830 Brighton Ct, Westchester IL 60153
731st Bomb Sqdn (L-NA) -Sept, Claremont CA—H R McFarland, 7755 John Elwood Dr, Centerville OH 45459
819th Avn Engr Bn -Sept, Louisville—Joe Graeter, 207 Bellemeade Rd, Louisville KY 40212
902 TCG, 732 TCS & 81 TCS (Greiner Field, NH) -Sept, Concord NH—John Whelan, 36 Mill Rd, No Hampton NH 03862

ALL BRANCHES
Argus Unit #18 -June, Wichita—Harry Bobbitt, 1001 E MacArthur, #179, Wichita KS 67216
The Chosin Few -Nov, Orlando—Paul Hurt, 1487 Chain Bridge Rd, Suite 100, McLean VA 22101
Civil Censorship Grp (Italy, 1943-45) -Charles Benjamin, 43 Harvey Ave, Lincroft NJ 07738
Farragut Training Ctr -Sept, Spokane—Doug Dugger, 1332 So 1st W, Missoula MT 59801
National Stearman Fly-In -Sept, Galesburg IL—Ted McCullough, 2310 Monmouth Blvd, Galesburg IL 61401
Navy Mail Svc Vets Assn -Sept, Norfolk—Maynard Hamilton, 5501 Seminary Rd, Unit 1109S, Falls Church VA 22041
North Platte WWII Canteen -Sept, North Platte NE—Carolyn Schmidt, POB 968, North Platte NE 68103
QM Mess Management School, Luzon Pl (WWII) -Nov, Oklahoma City—Paul Kelley, POB 50233, Tulsa OK 74150
USS Jos T. Dickman APA13 -Oct, Asheville NC—Ed Pocakoff, 1407 Kensington Rd, 2B, Hendersonville NC 28739
WAVES National -July, Hershey PA—Maggie Colbert, Public Affairs Coordinator, 2000 8 W Palmyra, Orange CA 92668

ARMY
ETOUSA HQ (ETO, WWII) -Oct, San Francisco—Allen Peterson, POB 42, Fair Haven NJ 07704
Panama Canal Zone (WWII) QM Trans & Ord (Auto Maint) -Aug, Pittsburgh—Bernard Midler, 3303 Harding Ave, East Liverpool OH 43920
SHAEF Vets Assn (ETO, WWII) -Oct, San Francisco—Allen Peterson, POB 42, Fair Haven NJ 07704

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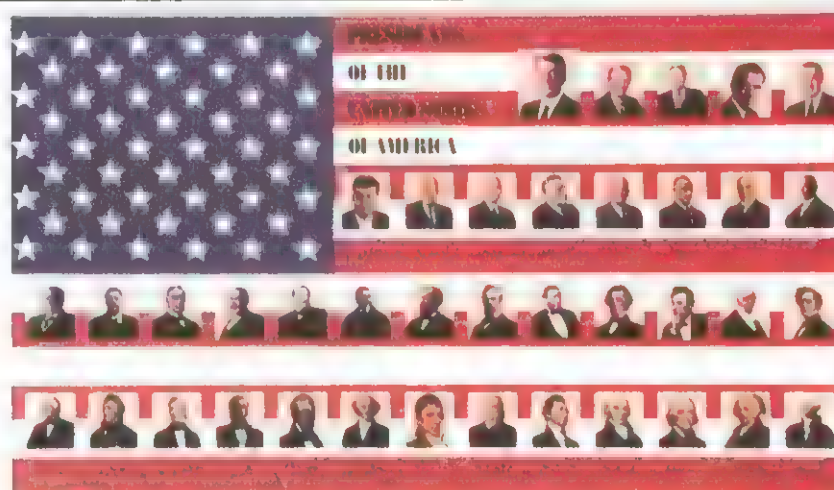
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1st Cav Div, 7th Cav Rgt, Co E (Korea)—Ecton Plaisance, RR 5, Box 230, Cut Off LA 70345
 1st Div, 1st BN, 18th Rgt, Co C—Sept, Red Lodge MT—Joe Porcarelli, Box 1123, Red Lodge MT 59068
 2d Inf Div, 9th Rgt, Co B (WWII)—Oct, San Antonio—Vernon Woody, Box 641, Princeton TX 75077
 2d Med Bn—Aug, San Antonio—William Mayfield, 2106 W Commerce, San Saba TX 76877
 3d Armd Div (1941-45)—Sept, Scottsdale AZ—Third Armd Div Assn, POB 740665, New Orleans LA 70174
 4th Base Post Office—Oct, San Antonio—Thomas MacBrayer, 897 Borden St, Lorena TX 76655
 4th Field Hosp (WWII) (Africa, Italy, Sicily Campaign)—Sept, New Orleans—Harry Hopkins, 14456 Cane Market Rd, Walker LA 70785
 4th Major Post Co (WWII)—Sept, Colorado Springs—Walter Palczewski, 18 Fredro St, Buffalo NY 14206
 6th Inf Div, 1st Inf, Co C—Sept, St Louis—Norman Ruck, Rte 3, Box 288D, Union MO 63084
 6th Inf Div, 8th Engr, Co C—Oct, Des Moines—Dick Martin, Box 458, Redfield IA 59233
 9th Armd Div, 2d Armd Med Bn, Co A—Oct, Minneapolis—Ray Jurek, 622 Jackson, Anoka MN 55303
 11th Evac Hosp (Semi-Mobile) (WWII)—Sept, Fargo—Melvin Kirkeide, 2847 N Edgewood Dr, Fargo ND 58102
 12th Replacement Depot (1943-45)—Richard Coffman, 10058 So Yacht Club Dr, Treasure Island FL 33706
 20th Air Depot Rep Sqdn—Aug, Dayton—Harry Price, RR 1, Box 181, Victor IA 52347
 23d (Americal) Inf Div, 1/20 Inf, Co D—Jerry Hayes, S 106 Cedar #16, Spokane WA 99204
 24th Inf Div, 19th/21st/34th Inf Rgts—Sept, Savannah—Robert Johnson, 24 Whipple St, Somerville MA 02144
 26th Inf Div, 726th Ord LM Co (WWII)—Oct, Plymouth MA—John Burnett, 62 Ely Ave, West Springfield MA 01089
 29th Inf Div, 115th Inf, 3d Bn—July, Laurel DE—Raymond Bowser, 2229 Maple Dr, Ford City PA 16226
 32d MP Co—Sept, Arcadia WI—Ignatius Sonsalla, 545 So Theisen St, Arcadia WI 54612
 34th Inf Div, 108th Med Bn, Co A—Oct, Fort Dodge IA—Floyd Ferrin, POB 25, Moorland IA 50566
 34th Inf Div, 151st/175th FA Bn—Sept, Minneapolis—Leon Spittle, 4511 Russell Ave N, Minneapolis MN 55412
 35th/145th/1122d Grp Comb Engrs (WWII)—Oct, Portland—Norval Cummings, Rte 1, Seymour IN 47274
 35th Div, 137th Inf, Co A—Nov, Atchison KS—Harold Volk, 1022 Iowa St, Lawrence KS 66044
 35th Sta Hosp (Kyoto, Japan 1947-51)—Sept, Springfield MO—Billy Marsh, 2922 Sussex Rd, Augusta GA 30909
 36th Engr Comb Grp (WWII), 14th Engr Bn, 2d Bn (Korea, Vietnam), 19th Engr Bn, 3d Bn (Vietnam)—Nov, Lebanon PA—Irving Cherney, 3032 Braeloch Cir, Clearwater FL 34621
 37th Inf Rgt, Co B (WWII)—Vernon Schrater, 5966 Birchwood, Great Bend KS 67530
 39th CE, 404th/843d Bn (WWII)—Sept, Lawton OK—John Seifarth, 2219 Oran Dr, Youngstown OH 44511
 44th Div, 63d Engr, Co A—Aug, Tacoma—George Jones, 4309 So 41st, #27, Tacoma WA 98409
 51st Gen Hosp (WWII)—June, Springfield IL—Alvin Wood, 10701 Camaro, El Paso TX 79935 3315
 53d Ord Ammo Co—Sept, Glendale CA—Sam Zagoranos, 10364 Silverton Ave, Tujunga CA 91042
 60th Med Bn, Co 500th Separate—Oct, Indianapolis—H D Blair, 12128 St Rt 725, Germantown OH 45327
 62d Chem Warfare Gen Svc Co (WWII)—Oct, Brisbane, Australia—John Raychel, 436 Selkirk Dr, Winter Park FL 32792
 64th Chem Depot Co—Oct, Belleville IL—Norman Hoff, 1614 Muren Blvd, Belleville IL 62221
 69th Sig Bn—Oct, Orlando—James Rae, 10459 Tilburg St, Springhill FL 33526
 70th Inf Div—Sept, Nashville—D O Omholt, Box 335, Iola WI 54945
 70th Tank Bn Assn—Sept, York PA—Charles Myers, 3208 Lake Ave, Baltimore MD 21213
 75th Div, 291st Inf, Co M (WWII)—Chester McKenzie, Rte 2, Box 295, Calhoun KY 42327
 78th Inf Div, 417th Rgt, Co D—Walter Firl, 3444 Christina Groves Ct S, Lakeland FL 33813
 77th FA, 2nd Bn, 631st FA—July, Corsicana TX—Jess Smith, RR 1, Box 155, Blanco TX 78606
 78th Div—Sept, Omaha—Mark Hoffman, 1221 Brinkerton Rd, Greensburg PA 15601
 78th Div, 309th Inf, AT Co—Trumon Meyer, 4403 Crain Pl, Amarillo TX 79121
 78th Inf Div (WWII)—Sept, Omaha—Joe Phillips, 3232 South 39th St, Omaha NE 68105
 82d AB Div Assn—Aug, Louisville—S R Gossett, 5459 Northcutt Pl, Dayton OH 45414

continued on page 48



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REUNIONS

continued from page 47

86th Div. 341st Inf. Hq Co. 1st Bn (Communications Pltn)—Sept, St Charles IL—Harvey Biever, 715 N Milwaukee, Port Washington WI 53074
86th Engr Bn. Hvy Pontoon (WWII)—Sept, Buffalo NY—Philip Wax, 2306 Fourth St, Easton PA 18042
87th Div. 312th CE Bn. H & S Co—Arnold Ballard, 408 Cushing Ave, Dayton OH 45429
88th MP Co (Kundari, Korea)—Francis Payne, 120 Smith Dr, East Hartford CT 06118-1547
94th (AAA). Btry G/744th (AAA). Btry A—Sept—Floyd Beattie, Rte 9, Box 38, Crossville TN 38555
96th Inf Div. 383d Inf. Anti-Tank Co—Sept, Bowling Green—John Nasser, 6139 Fairdale Dr, Cambridge OH 43725
101st Abn Div Assn—Aug, Omaha—Ivan Worrell, 101st AB Div Assn, Sweetwater TN 37874
108th Evac Hosp—Oct, Abingdon IL—Gabe Pica, POB 272, Sanitary Rd, Abingdon IL 61410
114th FA, Btry C—Oct, Tupelo MS—Lee Duke, 772 Novarese Rd, Memphis TN 38122
121st AAA Gun Bn, 421st FA Rocket Bn—Sept, Gettysburg PA—Mario Manoni, Rte 2, Box 439, Skyline Dr, Ebensburg PA 15931
121st QM Car Co—Oct, York PA—Harold Casper, 633 State St, Hamburg PA 19526
131st QM Truck Co—Oct, York PA—Lloyd Leffler, AD #2, Box 274, York PA 17403
135th AAA Gun Bn—Oct, Harrisburg PA—Geo Nice, 901 E Canal St, Lebanon PA 17042
135th Med Rgt—June, Appleton WI—Don Ulik, 6430 Congree Dr, West Bend WI 53095
141st Ord BAM Bn—Oct, Atlantic City—John Kip, RD 1, Dutch Lane, Freehold NJ 07728
193d FA—Sept, Bushkill PA—Paul Huntsinger, 74 Glencoe Rd, Columbus OH 43214
196th Lt Inf Bde, 17th Cav, F Trp—Richard Krueger, 130 Meadowview, Neenah WI 54956
199th Lt Inf Bde, 4/12 Inf, Co D (RVN)—Gregory Payne, 2214 Broadway, Apt 2, Vancouver WA 98663
200th Engr Comb Co (Korean Conflict)—Oct, Custer SD—Ramsey Kendall, POB 385, Deadwood SD 57732
206th CA (AA) Rgt—Sept, North Little Rock AR—Aubry Albright, 2208 Old Forge Dr, Little Rock AR 72207
209th CA (AW) (SP), Btry D—Oct, Bridgeport MI—Norman Baur, 1902 W Newport Ave, Chicago IL 60657 1026
237th Engr Comb Bn (WWII)—Oct, Colorado Springs—Vincent Powell, 257 Broadway, Passaic NJ 07055
246th Sig Ops Co (WWII)—Aug, Chattanooga—Johnnie Huggins, 30031 SW 169th Ave, Homestead FL 33030
250th CA Assn—Sept—Robert Valdez, 188 Harbor Dr, Daly City CA 94014
273d QM Bakery Co (Camp Elms N. Oahu, Saipan)—Sept, Sharon PA—Raymond Allen, 12 Whittier St, Dover NH 03820
284th FA Bn (WWII) July, Kenosha WI—J David Hawkins, 704 79th St, Kenosha WI 53140
285th Engr Comb Bn (WWII) Oct St Louis—Walter Maxwell, 309 Brock Rd Springfield PA 19064
296th CE Sept Hartford CT Joseph Civitillo, 9 Ireland Rd, Wethersfield CT 06109
317th Air Svc Sqdn—Oct, Ft Wayne—George Dion, POB 1067, Clarksville GA 30523
342d Engr Rgt, Co E (WWII)—Merle Franz, 8326 Abelia Ct, Yelm WA 98597
359th AAA S/L Bn—Sept, Johnstown PA—Francis Kudel, 123 Hornet Ave, Johnstown PA 15902
400th AAA AW Bn, Btry C (WWII)—Sept, Shenandoah IA—Walter Anson, 642 N. Broadwell Ave, Grand Island NE 68803
411th Inf Rgt, Co A (WWII)—Sept, Springfield IL—Ken Bartley, 904 Regent St, Alameda CA 94501
414th Sig Co Avn (WWII) (North Africa, England & Normandy)—July, Portland—Harold Luck, 2922 W Heroy, Spokane WA 99205
461st AAA—Sept, Canton OH—Fred Fisher, 933 Park Ave SW, Canton OH 44706
464th Amph Trk Co (WWII)—Sept, Myrtle Beach—Lloyd Rinehart, 298 Rumsey Rd, Columbus OH 43207
487th AAA AW Bn Oct, Dallas—Wilbur Tull, 2902 Altman Dr, Irving TX 75062
487th Engr, Co C/1617th Engr Co—Frank Dyal, Rte 1, Geuda Springs KS 67051
504th AAA Bn Bn (WWII)—Oct—Parke Harnish, 312 Coral St, Lancaster PA 17603
507th Pchnt Inf Assn—Sept, Key West—Clarence Hughart, 9151 West 66th Ave, Arvada CO 80004

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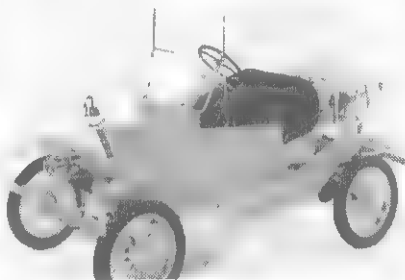
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509th Engr Co.—Aug, Manhattan KS—Stan Ware, RR 2, Westbrook MN 56183
518th AAA Bn—Oct, St Louis—Noah Cantrell, 2917 Meadowlark Dr, Sierra Vista AZ 85635
531st Engr, Shore Rgt, Amphib Engr—Sept, Cleveland OH—Eugene Rader, 517 Howland Wilson Rd SE, Warren OH 44484
543d Ammo Sup Dep (1950-51, Korea)—Chuck Kitchell, RR #2, Box 2995, Branson MO 65616
551st AAA, AW Bn (WWII)—Oct, Rochester NY—George Semmens, 34 Chestnut Dr, Rochester NY 14624
551st Engr Hvy Pont Bn (WWII)—June, Williamsport PA—William Brink, POB 123, Picture Rock PA 17762
555th AAA, AW Bn, Btry C—Sept, Jefferson City MO—Russell Cox, 4716 Sharon Dr, Jefferson City MO 65109
556th AAA, AW Bn (WWII)—Sept, Kissimmee FL—H E Lashhorn, 3516 Williams Dr, Weirton WV 26062
565th AAA, AW Bn, Btry C—J L DeFilippis, POB 400, Lexington NE 68850
573d AAA, AW Bn (SP) (WWII)—Oct, Biloxi MS—Gerald Hurlbert, 1620 Lewis Ave, Biloxi MS 39531
588th QM Lndry, 3d Pltn—Sept, Springfield IL—Emil Dedapper, 1005 Willow St, Mishawaka IN 46545
610th TD Bn—Oct, Louisville—Elmer Staib, 1434 Haskin Ave, Louisville KY 40215
625th Engr Lt Engr Co—Sept, Mattoon IL—William Warner, Rte 3, Box 20, Jerseyville IL 62052
625th Ord Amm Co—Oct, Canton OH—M J Chat terelli, 228 3rd Ave NW, Box 362, Beach City OH 44608
626th TD Bn Assn—Sept, Bedford MA—Fred White, 18 Spring Park Ave, Jamaica Plain MA 02130
634th TD Bn, Co A—June, Killean TX—D L Sullivan, 3132 NW 16th, Oklahoma City OK 73107
666th AAA Mg Btry (A/B)—Oct, Cocoa FL—Grady Barfoot, 1024 W Fairbanks, Orlando FL 32804
674th Sig Air Warn Co—Aug, Canton OH—Clyde Ham, 415 West Vine St, Toulon IL 61483
691st FA Bn (WWII)—Shelton Hipsler, 1003 Monroe St, Flat River MO 63601
705th TD Bn—July, Westminster CO—George Poor, Ramada Hotel, 8773 Yates Dr, Westminster CO 80030
707th Tank Bn (WWII)—Sept, Louisville—John Bickers, POB 481, Gulf Breeze FL 32561
718th Rwy Btry Vets Assn—Aug, Annapolis—Wesley Tutolo, 2773 Norman Rd, Roslyn PA 19001
731st Bomb Sqdn (L-NA)—Sept, Claremont CA—H R McFarland, 7755 John Elwood Dr, Centerville OH 45459
733d Engr Dep Co (WWII)—Sept, Chattanooga—Tom Stockdill, 331 Post Dr, West Mifflin PA 15122
735th MP Bn, Co B—James Holman, 107 Lombardy, Trenton TN 38382
745th Tank Bn (WWII)—Oct, Oakbrook IL—A G Spencer, 780 Glen Ave, Marseilles IL 61341
749th Tank Bn Assn—Oct, Las Vegas—James Bobbett, 6780 Oliver Dr, Salt Lake City UT 84121
756th Tank Bn (WWII)—Oct, Ft Worth, Roy Kosanke 11708 SE McGilvray Blvd, Vancouver WA 98684
788th AAA Bn HQ Btry—John Marko, 9th & Centre St, Ashland PA 17921
790th MP Bn, Co A—John Phillips, 1838 Oles Ave, Youngstown OH 44514
792d AAA, AW Bn—Nov, Tampa—Thomas Berott, 8370 Dora St, Spring Hill FL 34608
813th TD Bn—Aug—Arthur Burgess, 20-2 S Meadow Village, Carver MA 02830
814th Ord Dep Co—May, Middletown NJ—Robert Terhune, 98 Ave D, Lodi NJ 07644
817th Engr Bn—Sept, No Flammouth MA—Joseph Beaton, 16 King St, Wilmington MA 01887
851st Engr Avn Bn—Sept, Pittsburgh—Lee Kalk, 9230 Cameron Ln, Morton Grove IL 60053
853d Engr Avn Bn—Sept, Milwaukee—Chuck Clancy, 13455 Bobby Lane, Elm Grove WI 53122
995th FA Bn (WWII)—Sept, Toledo—John Souza, 149 Queen Dr, RC Pk, West Wareham MA 02576
1393d Engr Cnst, 353d Rgt, 177th Eng Bn—Sept—Roman Klick, 5849 N Lacey Ave, Chicago IL 60646
3014th OBAM Co, 139th OBAM Bn (WWII)—Oct, Charleston Streetie Benson, RFD #4, Box 248, Rockingham NC 28379
3472d Ord MAM Co (WWII)—Maurice Vervalle, 4216 Kenyon Ct, Carmichael CA 95608
8055 MASH—Aug, Greeley CO—Eugene Hesse, 125 Main St, POB 929, LaSalle CO 80645

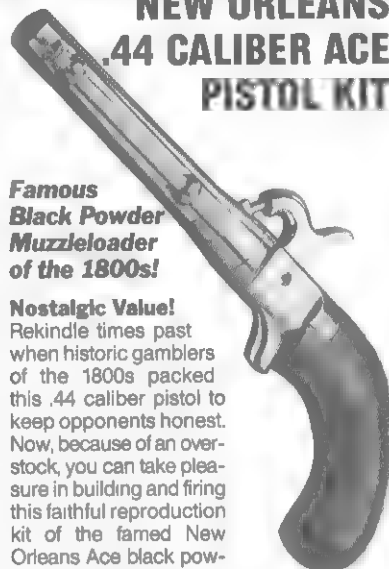
COAST GUARD

USS Cepheus AKA18—Oct, Atlantic City NJ Harvey Brittle, 105 Anchorway, New Bern NC 28560
USS LST789 (WWII)—Aug, St Louis—Kenneth Marsh all, 1277 Elm, Box 8, Eldena IL 61324

continued on page 50

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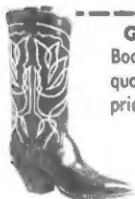
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REUNIONS

continued from page 49

USS Poole DE151—Aug, Norfolk VA—Donald Macchia, 256 Spruce St, Bloomfield NJ 07003

USS Pride DE323—Sept, Cleveland—Mike Laquatra, 7210 Normandy Dr, Parma OH 44134

USS Richey DE385—Sept, St Louis—Hank Konrad, POB 52694, Livonia MI 48152

MARINES

1st Bn, 4th Mar, 3d Mar Div (Vietnam)—Thomas McKinney, POB 322, Jamesport NY 11947

2d Mar Div Asan, Calif Chap—Dec, Fresno CA—Vincent Shutters, 331 S Dearing St, Fresno CA 93702

4th Def Bn—Sept, St Louis—Andy Doumouras, 4566 Gibson Ave, St Louis MO 63110

5th Mar Div, MP Co—June, Bloomington MN—Wayne McMeins, 9945 Madison, Kansas City MO 64114

B-MT-2—Sept, Millbrae CA—Larry Card, 6460 W 83rd St, Los Angeles CA 90045

G-3-11/A Howitzer Bn (1941-45)—Aug, Chicago—Sam Platt, 43 Herrington Dr, Upper Marlboro MD 20772-1545

HMM-161—Fall, Washington DC—Ronald Winter, 72 West St, Hebron CT 06248

SASEB Mar Assn—Nov, Las Vegas—Guy Roark, 6672 Pleasant Plains Way, Las Vegas NV 89108

USS Huntington CL107 (1945-49)—K E Pettit, 2757 Via Dieguenos, Alpine CA 92001

USS Minneapolis, Mar Det—Oct, San Antonio—Robert Babb, 686 Eden Roc Dr, Xenia OH 45385

VMB 413—Oct, Boston—Earl Bratton, 4 N 941 Crane Rd, St Charles IL 60174

VMB 433—Sept, San Diego—Henry Sory, 1609 Shields, Sherman TX 75090

VMD 354—Oct, Greenville NC—Russell Jeanes, Rte 5, Box 226, Kinston NC 28501

VMF 215 (1942-44)—May, Afton OK—Bill Mayer, 1806 Andover Blvd, Anoka MN 55303

VMSB 331—Sept, Savannah—John Thompson, POB 2518, Citrus Heights CA 95611-2518

WWII Panama Marines (1942-44)—Sept, King of Prussia PA—Hugh Smith, 29016 Dawson St, Garden City MI 48135

NAVY

6th NCB—Oct, Nashville—Herman Baggenstoss, Box 477, Tracy City TN 37387

23d NCB—Oct, Mesa AZ—Albert Hadley, 6750 E Dallas St, # 104, Mesa AZ 85205

33d NCB—Sept, Ocean City MD—John O'Keefe, 712 Jackson St, Salisbury MD 21801

34th (Sp) NCB Bn—July, Fresno—William Foster, 2370 Dayna Way, Merced CA 95340

62d NCB—Sept, St Louis—W E Roberson, POB 313, Nashville IL 62263

66-1022 NCB (WWII)—Sept, Chattanooga—Charles Mullinnix, 1518 Rogers Dr, Tupelo MS 38801

70th NCB, 1005 & 1006 Dets, 578 & 579 CBMU's—Oct, Orlando—Louis Cocorullo, 204 Quayside Cir, Unit 304, Maitland FL 32751

71st NCB (WWII)—Aug, Orlando—Emil Jahna, PO Drawer 840, Lake Wales FL 33853

96th NCB & Affiliated Units—Sept, Colorado Springs—Hazel Solarski, 139 Ravenhead, Houston TX 77034

105th NCB (WWII)—Sept, Kansas City MO—Ben Randall, 914 N 70th St, Kansas City KS 66112

114th NCB & CBMU 627/628/629—Sept, Sacramento—Jim Hannebohn, Box 164, Rio Vista CA 94571

116th NCB—Sept, Warwick RI—Raymond Doran, 460 Ives Rd, E Greenwich RI 02818

145th NCB (WWII)—Sept, Hampton VA—William Hulst, 717 N Gladiolus Dr, Barefoot Bay FL 32958

1053d Floating Dry Dock Assembly Unit—Bill McKinney, Main Ave, Box 654, Brewster WA 98812

Armed Guard Vets (WWII)—June, Toledo—Dick Langenderfer, 2601 Wyndale Rd, Toledo OH 43613

Avn Boatwain Mates Assn—Aug, San Diego—Ron Russell, 13363 Via Mark, Poway CA 92064

CASU-3 (WWII)—Oct, Hot Springs—Larry Biando, 3635 Pinetree Dr, Klamath Falls OR 97601

CBMU-502—Hugh Keane, 8349 S Virginia Ave, Lake Park FL 33418

DESRON 6 (WWII): USS Buck 420/USS Bristol 453/USS Trippe 403/USS Rhind 404/USS Wainwright 419—Sept, Norfolk—Harry Cook, 868 Hopwood Lane, Virginia Beach VA 23455

Destroyer Escort Sailors Assn—Sept, St Louis—Don Glaser, POB 31572, Orlando FL 32862-1572

FASRON 118—Oct, Pensacola—Warren Kuhn, 3605 NE 48th St, Kansas City MO 64119



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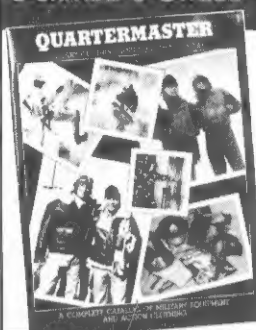
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Ft Schuyler Naval Officers Training School (Instructors Only)—June, Wolfeboro NH—Phillip Bell, Box 2101, Wolfeboro NH 03894

MCB-6 (Vietnam)—Robert Clement, POB 599, Ellerbe NC 28338

MCB9—June, Port Hueneme CA—Richard Casoli, POB 88, Hanson MA 02341

Mine Div 1 & 2, USS Grease/Gamble/Montgomery/Preble/Pruitt/Ramsey/Sicard/Tracy & Ogala—July, Seattle—Sept, Omaha—Ed Kramer, 338 LaSerena Dr, West Covina CA 91791

Navy Air Grp 19 Assn—Sept, Galveston—Lin & Jean Lindsay, HC-12, Box 311, Rockford Bay, Coeur D'Alene, ID 83814

NAMRU #2 (WWII)—Sept, Wheeling WV—Chuck Davison, 1122 Holmes Pl, DeKalb IL 60115

Radiomen, Adm Hoovers Flag (1943-45)—W L Cook, 2806 Templar Knight Dr, Tucker GA 30084

River Patrol Force (TF 118)/PBR's & Seawolves—June, San Diego/Aug, Norfolk/Nov, Albany OR—Al Van Horne, POB 5523, Virginia Beach VA 23455

SS Henry Wynkoop Armed Guard—Aug, Boston—P V Bucca, 85 Read St, Winthrop MA 02152

Sup Air Cmd—Aug, Salmon ID—Lyle Longhurst, Box 72, Carmen ID 83462

UDT 3 (WWII)—Nov, Ft Pierce FL—Clarence Mulheren, 517 Pearis Rd, Pearisburg VA 24134

UDT 7 (Underwater Demolition Team 7)—Nov, Ft Pierce FL—Rolly Pasternack, 64 Fairglen Dr, Titusville FL 32796

US Sub Base Midway is (June 1946-Jan 1946)—Donald Osbeck, 2271 S Cort-Virgil Rd, Cortland NY 13045

USS Alamo LBD-33 (1966-71)—Greg Bryant, RR 1, Box 54 I-2, Franklin IN 46131

USS Algal AKA54—Sept, Portland OR—E M Randall, RR 2, Box 14, Madison SD 57042

USS Alhena AKA9—Sept, San Diego—Joseph Patti, 642 Vista Way, Chula Vista CA 92010

USS Allen M Sumner DD892—June, 1989, Buffalo—R E Gall, 61 Fuller Ave, Tonawanda NY 14150

USS Altamaha CVE18—Oct, San Francisco—Omar Briggs, 2021 Westcreek Ln, 6, Houston TX 77027

USS American Legion APA17 (WWII)—Sept, San Francisco—John Zuella, 268 Scott Rd, #9, Waterbury CT 06705

USS ARD14 (1944-46)—B L Hebert, Rte 2, Box 1065, Sulphur LA 70663

USS Barney DD149—Sept, Charleston—Jim Burke, 4 Overbrook Ct, Ormond Beach FL 32074

USS Beatty—June, Portland ME—Philip Reardon, 33 Falmouth St, Westbrook ME 04092

USS Brazos A04—Tom Rounds, 806 Charles Dr, Ada OK 74820

USS Brooklyn CL40—Sept, Seattle—Thomas McMahill, RR 1, Box L45, LaCygne KS 66040

USS Brownson DD886 (1945-52)—Minneapolis—Chas Traxler, RR 2, Box 237, LeCenter MN 56057

USS Bunch DE894/AP079—David Hibbs, 706 Hartman Ave, Hanover PA 17331

USS Cabot CVL28—Sept, Stamford CT—Harold Suter, 1812 Westover Ave, Petersburg VA 23805

USS California BB44—Apr, Galveston—Harold Bean, 616 W Lafayette, Staunton IL 62088

USS Canfield DE262—Sept, St Louis—W H White, 21 Woodside Dr, Rte 3, Hagerstown MD 21740

USS Cassin Young DD792—Oct, Boston—Sumner Wheeler, 20 Caulfield Cir, Newton Ctr, MA 02159

USS Charles Carroll APA28—Oct, Las Vegas—Milton Smith, 1818 Crescent Dr, St Joseph MO 64506

USS Chemung A030—Sept, Houston—Charles Webb, 1421 Heritage Landing Dr, Chattanooga TN 37405

USS Cobia SS245—Aug, Manitowoc WI—Dan Pelton, 4311 E Vermont, Phoenix AZ 85018

USS Cofer DE208/APD62—Sept, Canton OH—Walter Whitaker, 1371 Mishler, #15, Alliance OH 44601

USS Concord CL10 (WWII)—Oct, Colorado Springs—James Lane, 2314 N Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs CO 80907

USS Cushing DD376/797—Sept, Williamsburg VA—George Dawes, Box 242, Schoharie NY 12157

USS Eberle DD430—Sept, Charleston—Robert McKenzie, 309 Catawba Ave, Newfield NJ 08344

USS Endymion ARL9 (WWII)—George Lynch, Rte 1, Box 158, Pocomoke City MD 21851

continued on page 52

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A man walked into a bar one night followed by his little dog. The bartender hurried to explain that dogs were not allowed in the building but the man stopped him with, "This is the smartest dog in the world. Doggie, what do we have over us that keeps the rain from coming in?"

"Roof! Roof!" barked the dog.

"Get him out of here," snorted the bartender."

"Just a minute," protested the man. "Doggie, who's the greatest baseball player the world has ever seen?"

"Ruth! Ruth!" barked the dog.

"That does it!" snapped the bartender, and he threw the man and the dog out onto the sidewalk. As the man brushed off his clothes, the dog sidled up next to him and said, "DiMaggio?"

Dry Wit

A stranger, while traveling through Arizona, noticed the dry, dusty appearance of the country. He asked, "Does it ever rain here?"

"Rain? Rain?" questioned the native. "Whysay, pardner, there's frogs in this town over 10 years old that haven't learned to swim yet."

And Fast Cars

A small boy lost himself at the auto show. He was crying loudly when a policeman found him and asked what was the matter.

"I'm lost," said the boy.

"Oh," said the policeman. "Who were you with?"

"My father," said the lost child.

"And what's your father like?" the officer asked.

"Beer and women," the boy sobbed.

REUNIONS

continued from page 51

USS Fanshaw Bay CVE70—Oct, Ontario CA—Duane Iossi, 310 Edwards, Ft Collins CO 80524

USS Gendreau DE639—Sept, St Louis—W E Price, 2006 Winter Haven Dr, Imperial MO 63052

USS Gladiator AM319—Oct, West Springfield MA—Don Westerlund, 4708 E Florian Cir, Mesa AZ 85206

USS Gold Star AG12, Penguin M33, R L Barnes Guam Insular Force, Pre WWII, Guam Navy & Marine Personnel—Oct, Reno—Richard McKinnis, 256 NE Arrow Way, Myrtle Creek OR 97457

USS Halibut SS232 (WWII)—Aug, Milwaukee—John Perkins, 7103 Cindy Lane, Annandale VA 22003

USS Heim DD386—Oct, San Diego—Frank Piercy, 5415 Pageantry St, Long Beach CA 90808

USS Hilbert DE742—July, Colorado Springs—Richard Hilbert, 1339 Chambers Dr, Colorado Springs CO 80904

USS Hinsdale APA120—Harold Scott, Rte 5, Box 135, Rogersville MO 65742

USS Honolulu CL48—Oct—R M Tannenbaum, 3000 Connor St, #26, Salt Lake City UT 84109

USS Clark, Howard F, DE533—Sept, St Louis—George Neldon, 1508 N Franklin, Litchfield IL 62056

USS Hull DD350—Sept, Colorado Springs—J R Schultz, 507 Melrose Ave, Santa Cruz CA 95062

USS Hyman DD732—Oct, Orlando—Robert Moldenhauer, 52 So 20th St, Kenilworth NJ 07033

USS John Rodgers DD574 (WWII)—Oswald De Ghetto, 5 Weston Rd, Somerville NJ 08876

USS Kaik DD611 (Oct 1942-Dec 1945)—Edward Davis, 3625 Donaldson Dr, Baton Rouge LA 70814

USS Karnes APA175—Edward Quinn, 2412 Woodcroft Rd, Baltimore MD 21234

USS LaGrange APA124—Nov, Williamsburg VA—Stanley Paul, 230 Hamilton Ave, Bethlehem PA 18017

USS Lansdowne DD488—May, St Louis—Frank Caterina, 12718 Mengibar Ave, San Diego CA 92129

USS LCI (B)438/457/358—Sept, Pueblo CO—James Harr, 2747 S Langley Ct, Denver CO 80210

USS LCS(L)111—Sept, St Louis—C A Rhoades, 945 Digby Lane, Mount Vernon WA 98273

USS Lloyd Thomas DD764—June, Milwaukee—Ken Hasse, 4821 N Hopkins, Milwaukee WI 53209

USS LSM18/Grp 4 Staff—Oct, Nashville—Harold Holbrook, 6529 Sulgrave, Memphis TN 38119

USS LST3 (ET01)—May, Chicago—Neil Scarpelli, 7117 W Altgeld, Chicago IL 60635

USS LST292—Sept, Mears MI—L W Brown, POB 26, Starkville MS 39759

USS LST508—Sept, Reno—Jim Odum, 2213 Portola Ave, Stockton CA 95209

USS LST629 (WWII)—Oct, Chicago—Robert Brummeler, 1015 Hubble Dr, Holly MI 48442

USS LST907—Oct, Nashville—Phillip Altieri, 386 Wyoming Ave, Fairfield OH 45014

USS LST1027—Oct, Norfolk—Nat Collura, 437 No MacQuesten Pkwy, Mt Vernon NY 10552

USS Mack DE358—Sept, Nashville—Ollie Brasfield, 17021 SE Jones Rd, Renton WA 98058

USS Mayrant DD402—Sept, Annapolis MD—Bruce Meulendyke, 7 Maplewood St, Old Saybrook CT 06475-2112

USS Meriwether APA203 (1944-46)—Oct, Kansas City MO—Charles Smith, 1036 Davidson Dr, Clarksville TN 37040

USS Metcalf DD595—Oct, San Antonio—John Chittum, 350 So Walnut St, Huntington WV 25705

USS Miami CL89—Oct, Ellenville NY—Joe Sullivan, 106 Gina Dr, Dover Plains NY 12522

USS Nicholas DD449—Sept, Portland OR—Mike Carroll, 24208 NE 92nd Ave, Battle Ground WA 98604

USS O'Bannon DD/DE450—Sept, Cincinnati—Robert Martin, 2204 Heritage Pines Ct, Lincoln NE 68506

USS Osmond Ingram DD255—Oct, Myrtle Beach—Robert Hale, 7101 Pierce St, Arvada CO 80003

USS Overton APD23, DD239—Sept, Norfolk—Paul Woodson, POB 231, San Mateo CA 94401

USS Paul Hamilton DD590/US Twigg DD591—Oct, Nashville—Doug Link, Box 333, Rte 2, Cottontown TN 37048

USS PC490 (WWII)—July, Monroeville PA—Oscar Fisher, 5694 Sherwood Forest Dr, Akron OH 44319

USS Reno CL96—Sept, San Diego/Sept 1989, Reno—Ethel Post, 23275 Woods Creek Rd, Philomath OR 97370

USS Renshaw DDE499—Sept, Mobile—R C Harrell, Rte 2, Box 240, Mt Olive NC 28365

USS Robinson DD582—Sept, San Diego—Don Fahlberg, 3661 41st St, #12, Moline IL 61265

USS Rocky Mount AGC3—Oct, Clearwater FL—John Vreeland, 3710 Armstrong, San Diego CA 92111

USS Salmon SS/SS573—Jack Hanley, 433 Rollingwood Dr, Vallejo CA 94591

USS Samuel S Miles DE183—Sept, St Louis—Daniel Molnar, Rte 3, Box 191A, Alvarado TX 76009

USS San Diego—Anthony Angelo, 319 W Park Ave, Hubbard OH 44425

USS Santee CVE29/A029 & Air Sqdns—July, Omaha—Bill Walsh, 205 S 16th St, Denison IA 51442

USS Sepulga AO20—Oct, Virginia Beach—Don Westerlund, 4708 E Florian Cir, Mesa AZ 85206

USS Smalley DD565 (1943-48)—Oct, St Louis—Bill Straw, 508 Utica, Plainview TX 79072

USS Wasatch—Nov, Boston—Vincent Allia, 45 Pond St, Waltham MA 02154

USS Wesson DE184—Oct, Atlantic City NJ—Charles Wismer, 96 Millford Sq Rd, Quakertown PA 18951

USS Wisconsin BB64—Ron McMillan, RR 2, Box 208A, Brimley MI 49715

USS Yukon AF9—New Jersey—George Cox, 7 Bugle Ct, Howell NJ 07731

YBF87—Sept, Washington DC—Jerry Shearer, 17225 32nd Ave S C2, Seattle WA 98188

VC 94—Oct, San Diego—Sherwin Eddy, Box 607, Anderson CA 96007

VN14/V0-VCS/VN15 (NAS, Jacksonville FL 1941-44)—Oct, Orange Park FL—R V Jolley, 751 10th St E, Lot 503, Palmetto FL 34221

VT 305—Oct, San Diego—Carl Roberts, 1818 E Missouri Ave, Phoenix AZ 85016

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